California State Parks
OHMVR Division
2007-2008

Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program

Project Scores and
Factual Findings

Conservation Projects
Restoration Projects

Project Number	Project Title	Page Number
CONSERVATION PROJECTS		
G07-01-06-C01	BLM California Desert District Office Conservation	5
G07-01-07-C01	BLM California State Office Bird Monitoring, Sonoran Woodlands and Chaparral Conservation	8
G07-01-07-C02	BLM California State Office CenCal Rare Bat Survey and Mapping Upgrade Conservation	13
G07-01-07-C03	BLM California State Office Clear Creek Soil Survey and Mapping Update Conservation	18
G07-01-07-C04	BLM California State Office Statewide Archeology Site Stewardship Conservation	23
G07-01-11-C01	BLM Hollister Field Office Conservation	28
G07-01-13-C01	BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office Conservation	33
G07-02-01-C01	USFS Angeles National Forest Conservation	38
G07-02-05-C01	USFS Inyo National Forest Black Canyon Conservation	42
G07-02-05-C02	USFS Inyo National Forest Lower Wyman Canyon Conservation	46
G07-02-05-C03	USFS Inyo National Forest Silver Canyon Conservation	50
G07-02-09-C01	USFS Los Padres National Forest Conservation	54
G07-02-12-C01	USFS Pacific Southwest Region Conservation	58
G07-02-13-C01	USFS Plumas National Forest Conservation	62
G07-02-14-C01	USFS San Bernardino National Forest Conservation	65
G07-02-15-C01	USFS Sequoia National Forest Conservation	70
G07-02-17-C01	USFS Sierra National Forest Bass Lake Ranger District Conservation	75
G07-02-17-C02	USFS Sierra National Forest High Sierra Ranger District Conservation	79
G07-02-18-C01	USFS Six Rivers National Forest Conservation	83
G07-02-20-C01	USFS Tahoe National Forest Conservation	88
RESTORATION PROJECTS		
G07-01-04-R01	BLM Barstow Field Office Restoration	92
G07-01-05-R01	BLM Bishop Field Office Restoration	96
G07-01-06-R01	BLM California Desert District Office Restoration	99
G07-01-07-R01	BLM California State Office Restoration	103
G07-01-09-R01	BLM El Centro Field Office Restoration	107
G07-01-11-R01	BLM Hollister Field Office Restoration	111
G07-01-13-R01	BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office Blythe - Colorado River Corridor Restoration	115
G07-01-13-R02	BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office Coachella Valley-Windy Point Restoration	120
G07-01-15-R01	BLM Ridgecrest Field Office Restoration	125
G07-02-01-R02	USFS Angeles National Forest Kagel Canyon Restoration	130

Project Number	Project Title	Page Number
G07-02-01-R03	USFS Angeles National Forest Lake Hughes Plantation Restoration	133
G07-02-01-R01	USFS Angeles National Forest Liebre Restoration	137
G07-02-02-R01	USFS Cleveland National Forest Restoration	140
G07-02-05-R01	USFS Inyo National Forest Mammoth OHV Restoration	144
G07-02-05-R02	USFS Inyo National Forest West Olancha Wilderness Road Restoration	148
G07-02-08-R01	USFS Lassen National Forest Pegleg Mountain - County Road A-21, Butte Creek Restoration	152
G07-02-08-R02	USFS Lassen National Forest Pine Creek Estuary Restoration	156
G07-02-10-R01	USFS Mendocino National Forest Gilmore Ridge Restoration	161
G07-02-10-R02	USFS Mendocino National Forest Miner Ridge Restoration	167
G07-02-10-R03	USFS Mendocino National Forest Potato Hill Restoration	173
G07-02-10-R04	USFS Mendocino National Forest Road 20N35 Decommission Restoration	179
G07-02-10-R05	USFS Mendocino National Forest Sanborn Restoration	184
G07-02-10-R06	USFS Mendocino National Forest St. John Restoration	190
G07-02-10-R07	USFS Mendocino National Forest Yuki Wilderness - Phase 1 Restoration	196
G07-02-10-R08	USFS Mendocino National Forest Yuki Wilderness - Phase 2 Restoration	202
G07-02-14-R01	USFS San Bernardino National Forest Restoration	208
G07-02-18-R01	USFS Six Rivers National Forest Restoration	213
G07-02-20-R01	USFS Tahoe National Forest Restoration	218

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM California Desert District Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM California Desert District Office Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-06-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **1**
	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

The BLM has conducted long term studies of the desert tortoise at selected study plots since 1978. The information on the number of tortoises on these plots, their productivity, tortoise health and movements, has been a major contribution of the agency to the rangewide understanding of the status of this threatened species. The study plots are monitored by the United States Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division, under the direction of Dr. Kristin Berry.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**2**	Division Findings	**2**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area - In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Future operational costs associated with the CDD Conservation projects will be a combination of OHV Trust Funds and BLM and USGS operational budgets. OHV trust funds are not the major financial support for OHV-related conservation in the Desert District. Without this funding, conservation monitoring will continue, but not to the extent as with the support of CA State Parks. In the implementation of the projects, BLM staff dedicate a percentage of their time and resources to the success of the project.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***

	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM California State Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM California State Office Bird Monitoring, Sonoran Woodlands and Chaparral Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-07-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **3**
	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Natural Erosion Control by Sustain Sonoran Desert Woodlands

Intact Sonoran Desert woodlands accomplish natural erosion control by stabilizing wash bank margins and slowing sediment-laden flash flood flows. Sediment loads carried from steeper, upland slopes deposit and accumulate as they enter into structurally rough thorn woodlands in the desert wash. Over time these deposits generate deeper, more moisture-containing, and more fertile soils that permit continued, globally unique desert woodland growth that harbors many rare bird species. Only 5% of the Sonoran Desert terrain is covered by thorn woodland habitat, yet this unique habitat hosts 90% of the Sonoran Desert's bird life (Dimmitt 2000). Establishing baselines and monitoring for Sonoran Desert thorn woodland bird species serves to indicate to BLM resource managers how well the ecosystem functions of woodlands are naturally stabilizing and enhancing soil erosion control through complex woodland habitat structure (which also encourages rich bird populations) in desert washes in southeast California

Water Quality and Exceptional Hydrological Function

As an ecosystem type, Sonoran Desert thorn woodlands occur in desert washes subject to intense flash flooding. The woodlands contribute significantly in a self-reinforcing system to holding water in the washes that can then support an extremely high aboveground woodland biomass, unequalled in any other hot desert ecosystem worldwide. Thorn woodlands accomplish this feat by creating structural roughness with their stems and surrounding understory that slows the speed of flash flood waters. In addition, woodlands block flash flows by accumulating debris piles of broken tree and shrub limbs (especially palo verde). In this way, greater amounts of water get absorbed and stored into desert wash soils, sustaining woodland tree growth well after flood events. There are larger social benefits. If the hydrologic functioning of these woodlands becomes compromised, farming communities that lie at the base of major BLM desert wash ecosystems along the Lower Colorado River in California, such as Vidal (San Bernardino County) and Blythe (Riverside County), become more vulnerable to inundation and crop loss. Also, Colorado River water managers from the Bureau of Reclamation worry about loss of water quality due to sedimentation from highly-eroded wash habitats. Monitoring populations of rare bird species in these woodlands indicates how well the structural / hydrological function of the thorn woodlands remains intact. Other resources such as landscape visual quality, game animals, picnicking, and camping opportunities available for people riding OHVs remain more valuable when the hydrologic functions of these woodlands are stabilized or enhanced through ecosystem management.

Special-Status Species

This project benefits the following special status bird species found by PRBO Conservation Science and others to be present in California's Sonoran Desert woodlands: Gila Woodpecker, Elf Owl, and Arizona Bell's Vireo (all State of California endangered species); and Long-eared Owl, Bendire's Thrasher, Crissal Thrasher, and Lucy's Warbler (all BLM Special Status Species and/or California Department of Fish and Game Species of Special Concern). An appendix in the Cat X NEPA document (Element 9 of this grant project attached) lists all the Special Status bird species that use the Sonoran Desert thorn woodlands in California

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Funding Source for Future Operations

Once the BLM attains a five-year baseline for breeding and migrant bird populations for Sonoran Desert woodland and chaparral interface habitats at each major site where OHV recreation and travel occurs, BLM wildlife biologists will assume funding long-term monitoring of bird populations at these key sites. This has already started at the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Management Area, for example. BLM foresees utilizing a combination of multiple funding sources to maintain long-term monitoring for Sonoran Desert and chaparral transition bird species: (1) funds acquired directly from federal congressional appropriations; (2) competitive grants from State of California wildlife and conservation agencies (not the OHV Trust Fund!) and competitive federal government grants; (3) indirectly obtained funds through partnerships with non-governmental conservation organizations;

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***

	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

Trails Rerouted Away from Sensitive Areas

Baseline monitoring for special-status bird species found in Sonoran Desert thorn woodlands enables BLM land managers to learn specifically where these species find the best quality habitat in a highly limited woodland area. This information bears importantly on the design and improvement of OHV routes in the Sonoran Desert, so that the OHV route network remains intact and accessible but avoids impacts to breeding birds, their young, and to the food-foraging habitat from OHV vehicles and visitor impacts (noise, habitat degradation or loss). Where trails reroutes are not feasible, the information from the baseline and from ongoing monitoring can show where mitigation and habitat enhancement can be undertaken for the habitats of breeding birds as well as neotropical migrant birds en route to their breeding grounds elsewhere in California.

Project Uses Signage that Incorporates Traffic Control

Signage along OHV routes in Sonoran Desert thorn woodlands is a critical element to the quality and safety of OHV riding experiences in these areas. Because the floor of a woodland wash can shift during flash floods, the beds of designated OHV routes can easily become obscured. Riders can easily loose their way in very large woodland washes. Keeping trail signs in place, legible, and instructive is essential for helping keep riders on their itineraries and reach their destinations safely and on time. In addition, the signing in these shifting environments is important to keep riders from inadvertently riding into important habitat for the many special status bird species that breed or stopover in Sonoran Desert thorn woodlands.

Site Specific Project Planning to Promote Sustainable Use

Beginning in FY 2008, the BLM is initiating concerted landscape restoration for Sonoran Desert thorn woodland ecosystems. The joint BLM Palm Springs / Yuma field office project to restore the vegetation around the Blythe Intaglios includes a substantial acreage of thorn woodland. As our collective experience with restoring these woodlands in this the driest of the Sonoran Desert environments increases, the value of monitoring information will be great as an element of the restoration prescription to track the timeframe and pattern of changes to the Sonoran Desert thorn woodlands. Monitoring the special status bird species in woodlands restored or enhanced at the Blythe Intaglios will help managers to understand the rate of ecosystem recovery or regeneration as habitat suitable for the suite of special status thorn woodland bird species.

As characterizations of breeding and foraging habitat for special status species in the Sonoran Desert thorn woodlands become more specific as the result of baseline monitoring, restoration ecologists and recreation planners will also have a firmer set of ecological conditions to strive for in restoration projects and route planning. In this way, impacts can be minimized to habitat conservation for rare species and to the public's motorized access.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM California State Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM California State Office CenCal Rare Bat Survey and Mapping Upgrade Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-07-C02**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **1**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Soils

This project promotes soil conservation by accelerating closures of abandoned mine sites where unnaturally high erosion originating from crushed rock waste and other sediments left near the abandoned mine features has been spreading down slope in the Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA). In the process of closing mines (with federal CERCLA funds), the sediments will be treated and disposed of according to the prescriptions from Abandoned Mine Land specialists at the BLM and the California Department of Conservation, Abandoned Mine Land Unit.

Water Quality

Controlling the man-made sediment erosion from abandoned mine sites in CCMA watersheds is critical for sustainable recreation management because of the growing concern on the part of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the Central Valley RWQCB about the amount of mercury-laden sediments that leave the CCMA on the Westside for Monterey Bay and on the east side to the Sacramento / San Joaquin Delta. Currently, the BLM must adhere to a Total Daily Maximum Load (TMDL) limit for sediment (established November 26, 2006) and for total mercury (established June 21, 2004), both set by the Central Coast RWQCB. Failure to maintain regulatory load limits jeopardizes water quality and undermines BLM efforts to sustain motorized recreation access and opportunity. By halting sediment erosion from abandoned mines in the CCMA through abandoned mine closures, the overall sediment load to stream will decline. In combination with trail maintenance, this multi-faceted strategy will reduce sediment for the CCMA watersheds overall.

Special Status Species

To date no surveys for colonies of rare bat species of management concern to the BLM and the California Department of Fish and Game have been conducted at the CCMA. Based on surveys at the Pinnacles National Monument just 15 miles from the CCMA, BLM biologists suspect that eight bat species which are BLM Sensitive Species and DFG Species of Special Concern occur in the CCMA. Pale Big-eared Bat, Pallid Bat, and Western Mastiff Bat are the species of common concern to both agencies.

In addition, Burrowing Owls, a BLM Sensitive Species, are known to use abandoned mines frequently for shelter. The BLM wildlife biologist at the Hollister Field Office and the contracted bat biologist will record findings of Burrowing Owls at abandoned mine sites as well.

Cultural Resources

Plundering of abandoned mine works is a concern for the State of California State Historical Preservation Officer. It is critical that the mining works and incidental materials left by miners in the abandoned mines be left on site or preserved elsewhere intact for future access for scholars and the public record. The BLM Hollister Field Office archaeologist is charged with preservation of these historic resources. An element for historic preservation is by Federal and State of California law a part of every prescription for an abandoned mine closure.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**8**	Division Findings	**8**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Once the abandoned mine and bat surveys for the Clear Creek Management Area are complete, BLM will not request from the OHMVR funding for subsequent mine closures, bat gating, and monitoring. Funding sources for these future operation costs come entirely from Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) funds.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

Rerouting with Gentle Grades

Rerouting around abandoned mines may be a necessary element of a prescription for an abandoned mine closure in order to reduce the force and volume of water and sediment leaving the vicinity of the abandoned mine site. These actions will result from mine survey analyses by the California Department of Conservation abandoned mine specialists and BLM staff. Wherever BLM can improve the slope gradient of OHV routes to thwart unnatural sediment erosion in the CCMA, BLM will be providing better quality, more sustainable OHV routes and be alleviating the sediment (and mercury) entering 303(d) impaired streams in the CCMA. In this way, the BLM will be in conformance with the Total Daily Maximum Load sediment limits set by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Trails Routed Around/Away from Sensitive Areas

As part of protection for rare bat colonies, BLM managers in general do not want to draw visitors' attention to the colonies with signs that request no entry. Specific goals for abandoned mine sites will be to keep the AML site out of view of travelers on OHV routes; and to keep general people away from mine sites where rare bat colonies roost to minimize unnecessary human disturbance to bats

Project Use of Signage

The signage developed in coordination with abandoned mine closures (with separate funding from CERCLA and Bat Conservation International) will involve kiosk materials and brochures to explain the nexus of management of abandoned mines for closures to benefit OHV rider safety, bat conservation, and water quality. In keeping with the need for protecting OHV riders from abandoned mine hazards and protecting the colonies of rare bats from disturbance, BLM does not plan to call attention to specific bat colonies. This absence of signage stems from a concern for the integrity and stability of rare bat populations and bats' need for insulation from human disturbance. BLM will designate areas with high abandoned mine hazards prioritized for closure. These areas along with sufficient safety buffers will be marked on editions of the CCMA map. Signage along OHV routes will make the perimeters of the buffered hazard zones apparent to riders. Signage is not requested under this grant but is part of an eventual CERCLA grant request for a specific abandoned mine closure.

Site-Specific Planning

As part of the prescriptions developed to close abandoned mine sites and thus remove hazards from the CCMA landscape, BLM archaeologists, wildlife biologists, and recreation planners, with advice from the California Department of Conservation, will prescribe management to control mine sediment flows, protect bats, and reduce hazards to people. Factors in implementation of closures will be based on the specific site needs. For example, site analyses based on bat species surveys will determine whether a mine may be filled or gated. If the abandoned mine is gated for bat conservation, the mine gate will have the appropriate specifications to permit entrance / exit of rare bats while preventing unauthorized human entry. The design of bat gates will be based on the bat species known to be present from the surveys funded in this project.

In addition to changes in terrain grade around abandoned mines and nearby OHV trails, managers may decide in survey analyses that berms around an AML site or side channels to store storm water may be necessary to reduce sediment flows. To avoid wear and tear to berms and channel slopes, BLM may reroute OHV routes to avoid intersecting with the erosion-prevention earthworks around abandoned mines. Any eventual reroute undertaken would not impede OHV access and travel or curtail the OHV transportation network

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**8**	Division Findings	**8**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM California State Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM California State Office Clear Creek Soil Survey and Mapping Update Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-07-C03**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **15**
	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Soils

With the pending revision of the Clear Creek Management Plan in FY 2008/2009, the upgraded and integrated soil survey for the CCMA will provide the best current information about soil properties that will lead to decisions in regard to trails, engineering for erosion control, site identification for recreation infrastructure, and locations for efficient habitat enhancements for wildlife species. At present, soil maps for the portions of the CCMA in Fresno and San Benito do not have comparable soil classifications and data detail. The two different classification systems and uneven information make it difficult for BLM to manage soils. Reconciliation of the soil surveys into a unified soil survey for the CCMA and available on-line to BLM managers and to the general public will ensure consistent and appropriate stewardship across all of the CCMA.

Water Quality

Controlling the man-made erosion from trails and other activities in CCMA watersheds is critical for sustainable recreation management because of the growing concern on the part of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the Central Valley RWQCB about the amount of mercury-laden sediments that leave the CCMA on the Westside for Monterey Bay and on the east side to the Sacramento / San Joaquin Delta. Currently, the BLM must adhere to a Total Daily Maximum Load (TMDL) limit for sediment (established November 26, 2006) and for total mercury (established June 21, 2004), both set by the Central Coast RWQCB. Failure to maintain regulatory load limits jeopardizes water quality and undermines BLM efforts to sustain motorized recreation access and opportunity. High-quality planning using high-quality information from an upgraded NRCS soil survey for the whole of the CCMA would make recreation and water quality more compatible.

Special Status Species

The unusual serpentine soils give rise to the large number of endemic serpentine plants Eleven taxa listed as CNPS Rank 1b plants, including the Federally listed San Benito Evening-Primrose and the rare Rayless Layia and Talus Fritillary), are found in the CCMA. Rare wildlife species include the Federally listed California Condor and the following BLM sensitive species and CDFG species of concern and: Foothill Yellow-legged Frog, Western Pond Turtle, and Bell's Sage Sparrow. , knowing soil features and productivity potentials helps resource managers to prioritize restoration that optimizes benefits to erosion control and to habitats and species previously impaired by motorized recreation.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.

If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Once the upgraded soil survey for the Clear Creek Management Area is complete, BLM will not request from the OHMVR additional funding for soil surveys in the project area. Funding sources for future and maintenance and operation costs in the CCMA would come from federal appropriations, visitor fees, and an increasingly smaller amount of funding from multiple non-federal sources such as grants, work-in-kind, and donations. This combination of funding sources is the likeliest scenario for future funding.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
X	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

Rerouting with Gentle Grades

The upgraded and harmonized soil survey for all of the CCMA will furnish the latest information on soil engineering properties and soil chemistry that bears importantly on OHV route redesign and placement. Route design and reconstruction with best soils information will alleviate unnatural water and sediment flows on the surfaces and side banks of routes in steep terrain that is characteristic of the CCMA landscape. A significant outcome will be to redesign OHV trails with gentler grades on hillsides and away from soils disposed to erode quickly. In this way, BLM will be contributing to reduced in-stream sediment loads and meeting the Total Maximum Daily Load limits set by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board for Clear Creek. This survey is a key tool to make incremental, cumulative improvements that make overall OHV recreation sustainable in the Clear Creek setting.

Trails Routed Away from Sensitive Areas

Many rare serpentine plants depend on specific soil types and conditions for habitat. Knowing the soil types where rare plants occur – especially at or near OHV routes – will alert BLM staff to areas where staff can implement greater protection for sensitive rare plant habitat and guide BLM staff in making route redesign improvements as part of forthcoming NEPA plan for the CCMA. Another aspect of sensitive sites involves minimizing through careful design and engineering the exposure to air-borne particles from naturally occurring asbestos and volatilized mercury that OHV riders and other visitors may encounter in the CCMA. The upgraded soil survey information will be critical to planning improvements to campgrounds, picnic areas, staging areas, and building structures that support motorized recreation and access. One tool for reducing exposure is to route trails feasibly away from soils naturally containing asbestos and mercury

Bridges Used Instead of Wet Crossings

The soil survey information will also highlight the degree of susceptibility to soil erosion at route stream crossing sites and will aid in prioritizing projects to convert unhardened and hardened stream crossings to OHV routes with bridges at stream crossings in the CCMA. These actions are essential to reducing the sediment loads in CCMA streams more effectively to adhere to TMDL objectives set by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Keeping vehicles out of stream beds in the Clear Creek watershed is critical to reducing riling up in the benthic zone of streams that elevates sediment loads.

Site-Specific Planning to Promote Sustainable Use

The goal of this conservation project is to manage soil resources in the CCMA with the best available site-specific information from an upgraded soil survey. This information is essential for management actions and applications to reduce soil loss from OHV trails (with trail reconstruction, contouring) and abandoned mine sources (with berms, storm water retention basins) that may otherwise adversely impact human health and safety, degrade wildlife habitat of rare plant species, impair water quality with sediment, impair air quality with asbestos dust, and compromise slope integrity. Intensive site-specific planning is key to achieving goals for the CCMA landscape in line with sustainable multiple-use management and existing regulations. This soil survey is an investment for intensive, strategic site management of CCMA in the coming years to guarantee OHV recreation and resource conservation.

Site-Specific Planning to Promote Sustainable Use

The goal of this conservation project is to manage soil resources in the CCMA with the best available site-specific information from an upgraded soil survey. This information is essential for management actions and applications to reduce soil loss from OHV trails (with trail reconstruction, contouring) and abandoned mine sources (with berms, storm water retention basins) that may otherwise adversely impact human health and safety, degrade wildlife habitat of rare plant species, impair water quality with sediment, impair air quality with asbestos dust, and compromise slope integrity. Intensive site-specific planning is key to achieving goals for the CCMA landscape in line with sustainable multiple-use management and existing regulations. This soil survey is an investment for intensive, strategic site management of CCMA in the coming years to guarantee OHV recreation and resource

conservation.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***

	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***

	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM California State Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM California State Office Statewide Archeology Site Stewardship Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-07-C04**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
	Water quality **(2 points)**
	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **0**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Trained CASSP volunteers make periodic visits to cultural resources sites to observe any damage by visitors or natural causes. Currently, about 120 active CASSP volunteers visit over 225 sites throughout the State on public lands, mainly BLM and USFS. Because many of these lands have OHV trails, site protection helps keep OHV recreational opportunities open to the public. Education about the sensitivity of natural and cultural resources helps reduce inadvertent impacts. Over 600 people have completed a CASSP volunteer training workshop to learn about local archaeology, Native American perspectives, and natural resources. Newspaper coverage of CASSP volunteers also educates the general public; see the front page of the Sunday (August 19, 2007) Press-Enterprise <www.pe.com/localnews/sbcounty/stories/PE_News_Local_D_sites19.1d86a7f.html>.
The most common natural source of damage to cultural resources is erosion. CASSP volunteers help identify soil erosion problems before they become critical and more expensive to repair.

Long term long term-periodic monitoring of important cultural sites on public lands is the primary responsibility of the volunteers trained through the CASSP Program. The training and the committment that many volunteers make to periodically visit assigned sites, and exposure to the importance of cultural sites, and added sensitivity of Native Amenican perspectives foster improved land ethics. See the answer to question 3 for additional iformation.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Volunteers do most of the work of CASSP; they make regular visits to observe conditions at their assigned archaeological sites. Volunteers participate because they are interested in local archaeology and history, because they enjoy the off-road experience of visiting "their" archaeological sites, and because they want to preserve cultural resources for the future. Each volunteer completes a two-page form to record their observations and comments and they submit the completed form to their supervising archaeologists. This information updates the data on the conditions of the sites and natural resources in the area. (These forms have been accepted by the State Office of Historic Preservation Information Centers for their archives.). In 2004-2005, the total value of volunteer labor amounted to an estimated $193,000.
The Society for California Archaeology (SCA) directs CASSP as part of their mission to protect cultural resources and to educate the public about archaeology. The SCA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, founded in 1964, with more than 900 current members. The SCA provides statewide coordination, promotion, and oversight. The volunteers work in local teams with the archaeologists of the land management agencies responsible for the sites.
Land management agencies (BLM, USFS, State Parks, National Parks) provide additional in-kind support; their archaeologists supervise the local teams of volunteers working on their lands. The archaeologists spend time with CASSP volunteers because they give an additional watchful presence at important, nonrenewable, cultural resources. Kirk Halford, archaeologist for the Bishop BLM field office wrote; "The stewards are our eyes, ears and on the ground presence. As a result of their efforts our cultural heritage is being better preserved for present and future generations. Since May of 2000, the Bishop Field Office has hosted four CASSP workshops, including one advanced training workshop which taught site recordation and mapping skills to the participants. Our latest workshop occurred in October of 2005. As a result, we have trained over 100 site stewards in the four workshops with about 30 percent being Native American participants from the five local Owens Valley Paiute and Shoshone Tribes."
The SCA Newsletter <<http://scahome.org/publications/archivedNewsletters.html>> documents SCA involvement in CASSP. The most recent issue, September 2007, issue devotes a special section on CASSP. A 2007 National Park Service Archeology Program Technical Brief by Sophia Kelly <<http://www.nps.gov/history/archeology/pubs/techBr/index.htm>> reviews CASSP and site stewardship programs in other states. The CASSP website <www.cassp.org <http://www.cassp.org>> provides the volunteer site visit form and electronic copies of past CASSP newsletters.
Additional funding for some of the past volunteer training workshops has been provided by National Parks, California State Parks and the US Bureau of Reclamation.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

As result of observations by CASSP volunteers, non-designated trails have been closed. The best example is provided by BLM efforts at Bedrock Springs, near Ridgecrest. The steward for this site documented visitor damage done years ago, and more recent OHV activities off designated trails. Through special efforts by the Ridgecrest BLM Field Office, CASSP volunteers helped reconstruct the natural appearance the area where the cultural resources are located and helped disguise illegal trails. OHV recreation continues on designated trails in this area. The Bedrock Springs work was described in the CASSP newsletter, which is available at the CASSP website (www.cassp.org).
Where appropriate, signage has been installed in sensitive areas identified by CASSP volunteers and agency archaeologists. In 2006, the Palm Springs BLM Field Office installed new signs to decrease motorcycle riding near sensitive archaeological and environmental areas by the Coral Mountains.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**2**	Division Findings	**2**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM Hollister Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM Hollister Field Office Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-11-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **40**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Soils – Maintenance of OHV exclusion fences in sensitive plant habitat and the Upper Larious Canyon Native American Use Area and monitoring to ensure OHV compliance will reduce habitat and resource degradation and soil erosion in those areas.

Please See Baseline Documents for Projects #'s OR-1-H-21, OR-1-H-27, OR-1-H-20, OR-1-H-25 - January 2006 Record of Decision, Sections 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.

Please see Appendix G, pp 1-6.

Please see project PCD and General Project Description.

Water quality – Maintenance of OHV exclusion fences in sensitive plant habitat and the Upper Larious Canyon Native American Use Area and monitoring to ensure OHV compliance will reduce habitat and resource degradation and soil erosion and sediment and heavy metal transport to watersheds, which negatively impact water quality.

Please See Baseline Documents for Projects #'s OR-1-H-21, OR-1-H-27, OR-1-H-20, OR-1-H-25 - January 2006 Record of Decision, Sections 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.

Please see Appendix G, pp 1-6

Please see project PCD and General Project Description.

Special-status Species habitat – Monitoring of all sensitive species listed in the WHPP/HMP will determine if population numbers are maintaining and the condition of their habitat.

Please See Baseline Documents for Projects #'s OR-1-H-21, OR-1-H-27, OR-1-H-20, OR-1-H-25 - January 2006 Record of Decision, Sections 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.

Please see project PCD and General Project Description.

Please see Appendix G, pp 1-6.

Cultural resources – Monitoring and conservation of the Upper Larious Canyon Native American Use Area will ensure that resources are not damaged and that the area is preserved for future ceremonial use.

Please See Baseline Documents for Projects #'s OR-1-H-21, OR-1-H-27, OR-1-H-20, OR-1-H-25 - January 2006 Record of Decision, Sections 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.

Please see project PCD and General Project Description.

Please see Appendix G, pp 1-6.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Future operational costs will be funded by a combination of applicant's operational budget, OHV trust funds and volunteer work provided by the Sierra Club and the CAL4WD, Salinas Ramblers, and Timekeepers OHV clubs.

Volunteer logs and staff field logs available at BLM Hollister Field Office upon request.

BLM Hollister Field Office will also be implementing a Fee Program beginning January 2008. These funds will directly fund maintenance and operations at CCMA. A copy of the Business Plan for the Fee Program can be found in Appendix G.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***

	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

All signs requested under this project would be a combination of directional and educational , specific to each site. Information would inform the users as to the nature of the enclosures and direct them away from habitat polygons.

Please see Project PCD and General Project Description for a more in-depth description of project and materials.

Please see Appendix G, pp 1-6.

Site specific project planning – Potential sensitive plant species habitat (particularly for Camissonia benitensis and Layia discoidea) has been evaluated and strategically protected on a site by site basis with consideration of adjacent OHV routes and staging areas. Proactive management of sensitive plant and animal species is critical to preserving OHV opportunities in the CCMA.

Please See Baseline Document for Projects #'s OR-1-H-21- January 2006 Record of Decision, Sections 3.4, 3.6, 3.7 and Appendix D.

Please see Appendix G, pp 1-6.

Please also see Project PCD and General Project Description.

All routes and trails adopted under the Route Designation process were chosen to mitigate water migration between watershed boundaries. Proper signage and education prevents travel off route between watershed boundaries, thereby limiting water migration along illegal routes.

Please See Baseline Documents for Projects #'s OR-1-H-21- January 2006 Record of Decision Section 3.4, 3.6 and Appendix D.

Please also see Project PCD and General Project Description.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***

	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-13-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **2**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

This project will benefit both short and long-term soil conditions.
Vegetation cover in the desert is critical because it retains soil. By trampling and ripping out vegetation, OHV traffic off authorized routes creates surface disturbance that damages this natural desert community. Sites devoid of vegetation within the wash areas and surrounding steep slopes are susceptible to increased soil erosion. Closing unauthorized routes within the project area will protect existing vegetation. Pending grant funding of the restoration project, restoration treatments will incorporate methods such as raking, pitting and mulching. These proven methods not only improve water infiltration and soil conditions, but also facilitate an increase in long-term vegetative cover, limiting immediate and future soil loss from erosion.

It is critical to limit surface disturbance upstream in order to improve water quality in the local watershed and the Colorado River Corridor. The Colorado River provides drinking water and agricultural water to downstream communities, and the Los Angeles and Palm Springs areas via the Colorado Aqueduct and the Coachella Valley Canal. As stated above, this project will improve vegetative cover and decrease surface disturbance. This results in decreased soil erosion and runoff, which improves downstream water quality.

This project would take place in desert scrub, desert wash and desert pavement communities. OHV activity off authorized routes of travel is destroying and fragmenting habitat for the BLM sensitive Mojave fringed-toed lizard and the federally threatened desert tortoise. Illegal OHV activity results in an unknown number of direct takes of individuals of these protected species. Other special status species affected may include the Alverson's foxtail cactus, desert bighorn sheep, mountain lion, LeConte's thrasher, Crissal Thrasher, and several sensitive bat species. It also destroys the vegetation, which provides food water and shelter to these species in this harsh environment. Closing these unauthorized routes will protect and improve critical habitat for these species.

OHV activity off designated routes creates surface disturbance and destroys cultural resources. The project area has many significant historic and prehistoric sites. Among these sites are the world renowned Blythe Intaglios—giant, prehistoric figures on the earth's surface, best viewed from the sky. Other cultural sites include rock art, mine sites, pottery, trails and campsites. Unfortunately, unchecked OHV use is destroying these sites at an unknown rate. By preventing OHV activity off authorized routes, the project will limit surface disturbance and protect these valuable cultural sites.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Federal lands provide Americans and visitors from around the world special places for recreation, education, reflection, and solace. Public lands managed by the Department of the Interior hosted over 370 million recreation visits in 2005. Ensuring that the federal lands continue to play this important role in American life and culture requires that we maintain visitor facilities and services and enhance visitor opportunities. Such efforts require a source of funding with which we can quickly respond to increases in visitor demand. Recreation fee revenues are a critical source of such supplemental funding that significantly enhance our efforts to address the deferred maintenance backlog and better manage federal lands.

Congress recognized the responsibility of visitors to contribute a greater portion of this funding when it established broad fee authority over forty years ago, in 1965, under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCF). Congress subsequently enacted the Fee Demonstration Program in 1996, and the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (Public Law 108-447) (REA) in 2004. The rationale is that those who use specific services and facilities should pay for a larger portion of the costs, rather than require taxpayers who never use the amenities to assume the entire cost.

Combinations of funding sources are:
- **Appropriated funds from Congress (recreation, wilderness subactivities)**
- **Fee Site area (campgrounds, open areas, etc...)**
- **Other grant funding (NFWF Mecca aster restoration, tamarisk eradication)**
- **Support through Friend groups (develop education programs)**

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

This project will have minimal ground disturbance and will not result in increased erosion or the need for erosion control features. Fence installation will follow the natural contour of the land. Installation of post and cable fencing will occur in washes only when necessary and will not impede water flow. Pending grant funding of the Blythe restoration project, the disturbed routes will incorporate curvilinear design with gentle slopes to approach the natural contours of the land. This will limit soil erosion and further disguise the disturbance area. Restoration work is planned within the line-of-sight of the physical barrier proposed in this project.

Currently OHV damage off authorized routes and into wilderness is damaging natural drainages and sensitive areas, including cultural sites and status species habitat. This project will close the unauthorized routes to OHV use by installing post and cable fencing. This physical barrier in conjunction with route signage will reroute unauthorized traffic back onto authorized routes. Current land use plans such as NECO promotes recreational OHV use on existing routes, which were determined to have a minimal impact on the environment. This project will not create any new OHV routes.

Heavy equipment and field crews will establish physical barriers to discourage illegal OHV activity and better delineate the closure area.
To protect the closure area and encourage OHV compliance, the development and placement of interpretive signs in association with fencing will inform the public of important boundaries, authorized routes, recreational opportunities and natural resources. Law enforcement will patrol the project area for public outreach and encourage OHV compliance.

To ensure success, this project has a site-specific strategy developed in coordination with the multi-disciplinary BLM staff in cooperation with local organizations. BLM staff will ensure good communication with cooperatives and field crew when implementing this project. Physical barriers will block entry at limited access points. Before project implementation, fencing sites will undergo site-specific ground surveys and environmental analyses. BLM efforts to facilitate responsible OHV recreational opportunities incorporate a multifaceted approach which includes law enforcement; public outreach; signage of legal routes; closure of unauthorized routes; and restoration of lands damaged by illegal OHV activity. By protecting natural resources, this project will reduce user conflict, enhance public awareness, and sustain legal OHV opportunities in the local area.

The project falls entirely within the Lower Colorado watershed, which has no perennial streams other than the Colorado River. It is critical to limit surface disturbance upstream in order to improve water quality in the local watershed and the Colorado River Corridor, which provides drinking water and agricultural water to downstream communities. This project is to install a physical barrier such as post and cable fencing. This project will have minimal ground disturbance, will not influence the natural flow of water, and will not lead to water migration between watershed boundaries. Fence installation will follow the natural contour of the land. Installation of post and cable fencing will occur in washes only when necessary in a manner that will not impede water flow. This project will decrease surface disturbance, which will result in decreased soil erosion and runoff and improved downstream water quality.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Angeles National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Angeles National Forest Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-01-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **3**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Hardening drainage dips with the use of 4"x4"X 5` concrete blocks prevent the dips from breaking down which allows for controlled water runoff. At present approximately 200 drainage dips have been hardened which has proven to minimize soils lost. Retaining walls will be installed where small drainages crosscut the trail tread to reduce soils loss. Turf block will be utilized in areas where steep and unstable soils exist to minimize soils loss. Monitoring of trails will detect any need for repairs, or additions of the methods that minimize soils loss. Soil Conservation Guidelines/Standards will be utilized for annual monitoring.

Hardening drainage dips with the use of 4"x4"X 5` concrete blocks prevent the dips from breaking down which allows for controlled water runoff. At present approximately 200 drainage dips have been hardened which has proven to minimize soils lost. Retaining walls will be installed where small drainages crosscut the trail tread to reduce soils loss. Turf block will be utilized in areas where steep and unstable soils exist to minimize soils loss. Monitoring of trails will detect any need for repairs, or additions of the methods that minimize soils loss. Soil Conservation Guidelines/Standards will be utilized for annual monitoring.

The San Diego horned lizard is a Forest Service Region 5 sensitive species monitored annually. The most recent monitoring indicated no impacts from OHV activity. Monitoring objectives and success criteria are being met. Prior to conservation activities each year, OHV personnel are briefed on identification and avoidance of the species. The arroyo toad is a federally threatened species located in Little Rock Creek which is adjacent to the Littlerock OHV Area. The habitat area for this species is completely enclosed, isolating it from the OHV area. The area is supported by a special closure through a Forest order that prohibits entry into the habitat area. Barriers, fencing, gates and signs are monitored at least four times weekly to insure no intrusions into the habitat area occur. In addition, the toad population is monitored on a yearly basis during the breeding season. 2007 data resulted in a potential tadpole clutch in Littlerock Creek. Due to drought conditions, there was little to no breeding habitat available throughout the toad's range. No toads were seen or heard during surveys in 2007, however, the toad has been consistently detected in previous years. The Santa Ana sucker is a federally threatened species located within the San Gabriel Canyon OHV Area. Signs and barriers that designate Santa Ana sucker critical habitat areas, OHV use and designated stream crossings are installed. In addition, information on the critical habitat is given to each user before entry into the OHV area. 2007 monitoring activities included habitat suitability surveys, macroinvertebrate sampling and electroshocking surveys for presence. The final monitoring report has not been completed to date, but preliminary data show that the Santa Ana sucker is present throughout the area and the population is healthy.

All cultural sites have been and will be monitored on an annual basis. Based on the results of the previous years monitoring, barriers will be repaired or replaced where breaches have occurred, signs will be repaired or replaced as needed and any improvements will be added to protect and prevent future intrusions.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

The agency commits annually, federal bugeted funds in support of the Conservation activities on the forest. The allocated amount for 2006 was $12,000. In the future, gate receipts collected at the San Gabriel Canyon OHV Area will be commited at a greater amount than shown in previous years. With the present application, a combination of federal budgeted funds and gate receipts will provide a $64,000 contribution. Volunteer support will be utilized for future maintenance and operation costs. In 2006, over 2000 hours of contributed labor was received for Conservation activities. Refer to 06/07 grant application(PAR report pgs. 44-45).

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

The 0.40 mile Kids Loop Trail is located on gentle rolling slopes covering 4 acres. Ever 3 to 4 years the complete loop is rerouted to provide a different experience for the beginning riders. The reroute of the trail will l incorporate curvilinear design as needed to insure minimum loss or damage to the soils.

The Kids Loop Trail is located on 4 acres and is completely enclosed by fencing except for the single entrance. There are no known sensitive species, wildlife or cultural sites within the 4 acre site. Two small drainages pass through the site. Culverts were installed at the trail crossing during the previous trail construction. The trail reroute will incorporate these crossings in the new design.

All trails are signed for difficulty (easy, more difficult, most difficult), type of use allowed (MC, ATV, 4x4), trail name and number along with directional arrows. Kiosk and bulletin boards that are located at trail heads and staging areas have maps (indicating type of use, difficulty and trail names), and Tread Lightly information. Along major routes there are reassurance signs that indicate that OHV use is restricted to designated roads, trails and areas. In addition there are signs in specific areas that prohibit OHV use due to environmental, botanical and sensitive wildlife habitats.

Out OHV areas and route system is monitored and evaluated to determine any potential degradation involving soils, wildlife, historical, botanical and water quality. If degradation is occurring corrective actions will be taken such as: additional signing, improvement of water crossing, addition and maintenance of drainage devices, improved education, increased monitoring, partial closures or total closure, rerouting and barrier maintenance or additional barriers.

Past and present techniques of permanent water crossing, tread hardening, annual tread maintenance has all but eliminated the use of heavy equipment. With permanent drainage devices in place the sedimentation is reduced preventing the need for further mitigation measures.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Inyo National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Inyo National Forest Black Canyon Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-05-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **0**
	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

The Black Canyon Conservation Project would reduce unnatural soil erosion and improve soil productivity. The project would improve stream crossings by hardening and stabilizing the crossings. Currently, the crossings are rutted, and stream crossings are widened and causing excessive erosion and sedimentation into Black Creek. Hardening the crossings with rock over filter cloth would help reduce erosion, because vehicles would not be traveling on soft soil susceptible to erosion. The project would also return stream flow that is currently diverted onto the road back into its natural channel. This streamflow has caused rutting of the road, which is created by unnatural soil erosion (See attached photos 1 and 2). By eliminating water flow on the road surface, the rate of soil erosion would be reduced.

Improving water quality is a major goal of this project and project implementation would benefit water quality (see Project Description), As stated in the above paragraph, soil erosion would be reduced by this project. The road crosses Black Creek numerous times in the project area (See Figure 2 in the project description – project map), and soil erosion from the road therefore ends up entering Black Creek, increasing turbidity and reducing water quality. With a reduction in erosion, less fine sediment would enter the creek, and water quality would be improved. The project will re-water previously dried sections of Black Creek where the road has intercepted flow. This will result in increased riparian vegetation along the re-watered stream channel thus reducing bank erosion and sedimentation leading to improved water quality.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	4	Division Findings	4	Concur.

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

After project implementation, the area will need some continued maintenance and enforcement to ensure its long-term success.

Recreation is the major focus of Inyo National Forest management. The Forest will receive regular funding for the indefinite future, and a portion of this funding will go toward OHV patrol in the Black Canyon area. As part of patrol, maintenance could be completed in this project area.

Other than regular federal funds, future maintenance and enforcement in the Black Canyon area will be supplemented with volunteer work. Local organizations such as Friends of the Inyo, Advocates for local access, Sneakers, and other conservation and access groups will be involved in maintenance projects and enforcement. These volunteers are from established groups working in the Inyo National Forest, and their participation is expected indefinitely.

OHV trust funds would likely also be used for some future OHV patrols. While patrol would occur without OHV trust funds, the Forest intends to apply for Law enforcement grants in the future. If received, these funds could help supplement regular Forest funds, and could allow for more frequent OHV patrols to ensure that the project is sustainable and successful.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

As explained in the Project Description (pg. 1), the Black Canyon Project would use directional and educational signs to help OHV users more clearly understand the trail system, and to explain that restoration has recently occurred and OHV user cooperation is necessary for project success. These signs would help prevent off-trail travel and would therefore reduce the need for future barricading or restoration.

The project incorporates site-specific project planning that considers the road's location along a stream corridor and the challenges of creating a sustainable road when there are numerous stream crossings within a few miles. The Black Canyon conservation project would include completion of an environmental analysis to fulfill NEPA requirements (See project description, p. 1). The proposed project is already site-specific, but as part of NEPA analysis, various specialists (including a recreation/OHV specialist) would have input on the project, ensuring that potential negative effects are mitigated, that the project maximizes resource protection, and that OHV use is sustainable and opportunities are not lost.

This project would help return stream flow to its natural channel and prevent water migration out of the natural channel or watershed. Currently, the Black Canyon Road diverts water from Black Creek, carrying it down the road and out of its natural flow pattern (See Photos 1 and 2). This alters watershed function. Through this project, the stream flow would be returned to its natural channel, and would no longer have the potential to be carried out of the natural sub-watershed (See project description, pg. 1).

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Inyo National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Inyo National Forest Lower Wyman Canyon Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-05-C02**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **1**
	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

The Wyman Canyon Conservation Project would reduce unnatural soil erosion and improve soil productivity. The project would improve stream crossings by hardening and stabilizing the crossings. Currently, the crossings are rutted, and stream crossings are widened and causing excessive erosion and sedimentation into Wyman Creek (See photos 1-3). Hardening the crossings with rock over filter cloth would help reduce erosion, because vehicles would not be traveling on soft soil susceptible to erosion. The project would also return stream flow that is currently diverted onto the road back into its natural channel. This streamflow has caused rutting of the road, which is created by unnatural soil erosion. By eliminating water flow on the road surface, the rate of soil erosion would be reduced.

Improving water quality is a major goal of this project, and project implementation would benefit water quality. As stated in the above paragraph, soil erosion would be reduced by this project. The road crosses Wyman Creek numerous times in the project area, and soil erosion from the road therefore ends up entering Wyman Creek, increasing turbidity and reducing water quality. With a reduction in erosion, less fine sediment would enter the creek, and water quality would be improved.

One special-status species, the Dedecker's clover (Trifolium macilentum var. dedeckerae), has a small potential for improved habitat as a result of the Lower Wyman Canyon Conservation Project. A population of the clover is known to exist directly adjacent to the project area (Inyo National Forest sensitive species GIS layer). While the plant usually grows on steep rocky slopes, its habitat can be in flatter areas such as near the road. The project would improve road tread and narrow the road, encouraging OHV users to stay on the existing road, and preventing possible incursions into the clover habitat.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

After project implementation, the area will need some continued maintenance and enforcement to ensure its long-term success.

Recreation is the major focus of Inyo National Forest management. The Forest will receive regular funding for the indefinite future, and a portion of this funding will go toward OHV patrol in the Wyman Canyon area, including this project area. As part of patrol, maintenance could be completed in this project area.

Other than regular federal funds, future maintenance and enforcement in the Wyman Canyon area will be supplemented with volunteer work. Local organizations such as Friends of the Inyo, Advocates for local access, Sneakers, and other conservation and access groups will be involved in maintenance projects and enforcement. These volunteers are from established groups working in the Inyo National Forest, and their participation is expected indefinitely.

OHV trust funds would likely also be used for some future OHV patrols. While patrol would occur without OHV trust funds, the Forest intends to apply for Law enforcement grants in the future. If received, these funds could help supplement regular Forest funds, and could allow for more frequent OHV patrols to ensure that the project is sustainable and successful.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

As explained in the Project Description (page 1), the Wyman Canyon Project would use directional and educational signs to help OHV users more clearly understand the trail system, and to explain that restoration has recently occurred and OHV user cooperation is necessary for project success. These signs would help prevent off-trail travel and would therefore reduce the need for future barricading or restoration.

The project incorporates site-specific project planning that considers the road's location along a stream corridor and the challenges of creating a sustainable road when there are numerous stream crossings within a few miles. The Wyman Canyon conservation project would include completion of an environmental analysis to fulfill NEPA requirements (see project description, page 3). The proposed project is already site-specific, but as part of NEPA analysis, various specialists (including a recreation/OHV specialist) would have input on the project, ensuring that potential negative effects are mitigated, that the project maximizes resource protection, and that OHV use is sustainable and opportunities are not lost.

This project would help return stream flow to its natural channel and prevent water migration out of the natural channel or watershed. Currently, the Wyman Canyon Road diverts water from Wyman Creek, carrying it down the road and out of its natural flow pattern. This alters watershed function. Through this project, the stream flow would be returned to its natural channel, and would no longer have the potential to be carried out of the natural sub-watershed (see project description, page 1).

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Inyo National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Inyo National Forest Silver Canyon Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-05-C03**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
X	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **1**
	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

The Silver Canyon Conservation Project would reduce unnatural soil erosion and improve soil productivity. The project would improve stream crossings by hardening and stabilizing the crossings. Currently, the crossings are rutted, and stream crossings are widened and causing excessive erosion and sedimentation into Silver Creek. Hardening the crossings with rock over filter cloth would help reduce erosion, because vehicles would not be traveling on soft soil susceptible to erosion. The project would also return stream flow that is currently diverted onto the road back into its natural channel. This streamflow has caused rutting of the road, which is created by unnatural soil erosion (See Map 2, and photos 1-3). By eliminating water flow on the road surface, the rate of soil erosion would be reduced.

Improving water quality is a major goal of this project, and project implementation would benefit water quality. As stated in the above paragraph, soil erosion would be reduced by this project. The road crosses Silver Creek numerous times in the project area, and soil erosion from the road therefore ends up entering Silver Creek, increasing turbidity and reducing water quality. With a reduction in erosion, less fine sediment would enter Silver Creek, and water quality would be improved.

One special-status species, the Panamint Alligator Lizard (Elgaria panamintina), would have improved habitat as a result of the Silver Canyon Conservation Project. The lizard is designated a Forest Service Sensitive Species, and is not listed as endangered or threatened. Its habitat is generally restricted to riparian edges and talus slopes on narrow canyons of the White and Inyo mountains (see WHP/HMPP included in this Inyo National Forest grant application). This project would increase riparian vegetation and reduce the potential for future riparian vegetation loss in the White Mountains. Therefore, it may increase the habitat area for at least one special-status species.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area - In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.

If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

After project implementation, the area will need some continued maintenance and enforcement to ensure its long-term success.

Recreation is the major focus of Inyo National Forest management. The Forest will receive regular funding for the indefinite future, and a portion of this funding will go toward OHV patrol in the Silver Canyon area, including this project area. Silver Canyon is a relatively heavily used road, and therefore its patrol and project maintenance will be a Forest priority. As part of patrol, maintenance is completed and would be completed in this project area.

Other than regular federal funds, future maintenance and enforcement in the Silver Canyon area will be supplemented with volunteer work. Local organizations such as Friends of the Inyo, Advocates for local access, Sneakers, and other conservation and access groups will be involved in projects and enforcement. These volunteers are from established groups working in the region that includes the Inyo National Forest, and their participation is expected indefinitely.

OHV trust funds would likely also be used for some future OHV patrols. While the patrol would occur without OHV trust funds, the Forest intends to apply for Law enforcement grants in the future. If received, these funds could help supplement regular Forest funds, and could allow for more frequent OHV patrols to ensure that the project is sustainable and successful.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

As explained in the Project Description (page 1), the Silver Canyon Project would use directional and educational signs to help OHV users more clearly understand the trail system, and to explain that restoration has recently occurred and OHV user cooperation is necessary for project success. These signs would help prevent off-trail travel and would therefore reduce the need for future barricading or restoration.

The project incorporates site-specific project planning that considers the road's location along a stream corridor and the challenges of creating a sustainable road when there are numerous stream crossings within a few miles. This conservation project would include completion of an environmental analysis to fulfill NEPA requirements (see project description, page 2). The proposed project is already site-specific, but as part of NEPA analysis, various specialists (including a recreation/OHV specialist) would have input on the project, ensuring that potential negative effects are mitigated, that the project maximizes resource protection, and that OHV use is sustainable and opportunities are not lost.

This project would help return stream flow to its natural channel and prevent water migration out of the natural channel or watershed. Currently, the Silver Canyon Road diverts water from Silver Creek, carrying it down the road and out of its natural flow pattern. This alters watershed function. Through this project, the stream flow would be returned to its natural channel, and would no longer have the potential to be carried out of the natural sub-watershed (see project description, page 1).

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Los Padres National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Los Padres National Forest Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-09-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
X	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **19**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

The Soil Conservation program provides current information/changes in soil conditions and facilitates a very responsive approach to preventing erosion impacts. Immediate implementation of protection measures by program managers following Best Management Practices will be used in reducing erosion. This may require closing a trail until erosion impacts can be stopped. Reference the Conservation Grant Soil Conservation Program, and Form K1, 7c.

A component of the WHPP checklist examines how erosion can impact aquatic species of concern and deteriorate water quality. Monitoring allows mangers to identify potential impact sites before harm to sensitive habitats and species can occur. Reference the Conservation Grant WHPP checklists for stream crossings.

The 6 plant and 13 animal species identified by the WHPP/HMP will benefit by the management of direction provided by the plan. The Plan identifies 1) Known Information about the species, 2) Methodology for identifying information, 3) OHV activities of concern, 4) Species management objectives, 5) Management Actions, and 6) Success Criteria.
Please see WHPP for details.

Potential impacts to cultural sites is reduced by soil monitoring which identifies erosion areas. The Trail Maintenance Plan then controls and eliminates the erosion areas and limits long term impact to cultural resources. Please see both Form M and Soil Conservation Program for futher details.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Future maintenance and operation costs will come from a varitety of sources including (hopefully) some portion of State OHV funds. No single source is expected to adequately fund program needs. The sources are 1) Appropriated funds for operations budget (see contributed funds in PCD); 2) Volunteer support through work and trail maintenance projects, donation of equipment time (see project decriptions for Facility Maintenance, Trail Maintenance and Law Enforcement and accompanying PCDs). 3) Other special funding soruces such as Forest Service Capital Improvement Projects; and 4) Combined funding from Recreation Enhancement Act fee reciept allocations.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
X	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

No re-routes are planned for trail maintenance at this time. However, all motorized routes incorporate curvilinear desgin and most have gentle grades to reduce erosion.

Initial trail design located the OHV trails on the Los Padres NF out of sensitve areas. Several routes have been rerouted in the past out of drainage areas. No current conflicts of this type are evident. Monitoring assists us in identifying these potential conflicts. Please see OHV route maps for route locations.

Bridges are not effective or cost efficient for most OHV routes in the dry coastal mountains of the Los Padres National Forest. The extreme fluctuation of water flow and wide shallow stream beds make bridges less effective for reducing environmental impacts than hardened crossings. The forest mitigates wet ford crossing impacts by closing routes during high water flow. (see OHV Opportunity description in Form K1,3, and Soil Conservation Program)

OHV trailheads have signs panels that show designated vehicle routes and provide environmental educations information about low impact riding. These OHV panels are located at nine focused OHV trailheads, including Piru Creek Crosing, Grade Valley, Ballinger, Apache Saddle, Frazier Mtn, Upper Oso, Rockfront, La Panza, and Navajo Flats. Additional signs have been ordered and will be installed this year. (see OHV route maps for Santa Lucia and Mt Pino Ranger Districts)

Site specific project design is incorporated in all facilities to eliminate or mitigate environmental impacts. OHV facilities and trails are designed to minimze maintenance and potential erosion from the sites. (See Form K8 Planning Evaluation Criteria as a sample)

No altering of drainages or consruction of drainage structures is done on the Forest that could alter stream flows between watersheds. No situation exists where management actions have caused water to migrate between watershed boundaries.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**4**	**Narrative is inconsistent with items checked other than "use of signage" and "site specific project planning".**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Pacific Southwest Region**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Pacific Southwest Region Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-12-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
X	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
	Water quality **(2 points)**
	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **0**
	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***

	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	OHV Program Management plan.
X	Maintenance practices.
X	Conservation practices.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.

Explain each item checked above:

The report generated by this project will provide guidance to OHV program management plans on the National Forests by developing scientifically-supported OHV-related disturbance thresholds. Study results will be incorporated into OHV recreation opportunity programs and route designation. An important feature includes data analysis of the effects on goshawks of OHV sound versus the effects of simple human presence. (Reference: Goshawk study plan on file at the OHMVR Division office).

The project will provide guidance to road and trail maintenance practices. With data on the response of goshawks related to sound levels, vehicles, and human activity, disturbance thresholds will be identified that can be incorporated into maintenance practices and regimes near goshawk areas. (Reference: Goshawk study plan on file at the OHMVR Division office).

This project will provide guidance to wildlife conservation practices. The northern goshawk, a species of concern and a Forest Service Sensitive species, will provide valuable information for species and recreation management of Forest Service System lands throughout the state. Since the study includes data on both adult and young goshawk, the data results will benefit goshawk reproductive success. (Reference: Goshawk study plan on file at the OHMVR Division office).

This project will provide guidance for OHV project planning to enable sustained OHV use in a manner that also sustains goshawks. The findings of this project will identify what OHV-related disturbance thresholds, if any, as necessary to avoid negative effects to goshawks. Project managers will use this information in project planning and implementation to reduce OHV-related impacts during times and places when and where goshawks are most sensitive to such impacts while sustaining OHV use. (Reference: Goshawk study plan on file at the OHMVR Division office).

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**8**	Division Findings	**8**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
X	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
X	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands

	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.

Explain each item checked above:

This project will document the potential effects to natural resources, specifically the species status species the Northern goshawk. When the data analysis and final report are completed, results will be implemented through forest land management decisions to project the species and mitigation effects for Northern goshawk. (reference: Forest Service Manual and Handbook 2370 for Sensitive Species management policy).

This project will dcoument the potential effects to other recreational uses, such as hiking. The study also gathered data on non-motorizied use distrubance in comparison to OHV use effects on goshawk. (Reference: Goshawk study plan on file at the OHMVR Division office).

This project will document the potential effects of OHV recreation on National Forest System lands, as well as on adjacent, interspersed lands. The study results can be used by other land-owners to benefit their OHV recreation programs.

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points

Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Plumas National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Plumas National Forest Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-13-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
X	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
	Water quality **(2 points)**
	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **0**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

The primary objective of the proposed project is to prevent further OHV damage to archaeological resources. Effective barrier placement will prevent future access, and signage will provide educational opportunities for the public/user groups.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**2**	Division Findings	**2**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area - In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

The Forest Heritage Program`s annual operating budget includes allocations for archaeological site monitoring and site stabilization, where needed. The proposed project is expected to eliminate the need for future stabilization. Future trail maintenance costs are not applicable; current use is unauthorized. General Heritage Resources Management activities have, and will continue to be, a priority for the Forest. The Forest is developing a new site stewardship program called the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP - a program also funded by the CA OHV Commission). As part of this program volunteers will monitor the site on a regular basis, and help to ensure its protection.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***

	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

The current trail is unauthorized. Continued site degredation could result in sedimentation to drainages. The proposed project, including barrier placement and educational signage, will prevent further access, and the potential for future imacts to sensitive areas.

Interpretive and educational signs would target OHV users for the purpose of educating them about the sensitivity of the area, the importance of protecting our NationalHeritage, Native American cultural and traditional practices, and cultural resource laws.

There is no site specific project planning needed to promote sustainable OHV use; the area is closed due to the presence of sensitive cultural resources.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**4**	**Narrative indicates "no site specific project planning needed".**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS San Bernardino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS San Bernardino National Forest Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-14-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **191**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

By implementing the 1991 Soil Loss Standards, completing the Soil Monitoring Program annually and using additional soil pin sediment and trail prism bridge monitoring, the Forest is extremely effective in preventing unacceptable soil loss across the OHV trail system. This is clearly demonstrated by the Soil Condition Rating Table, Form G of this application, which indicates no trail is currently in a Red condition. Soil pins are placed and monitored adjacent OHV trails to determine how much, if any, soil is leaving the trail. When unacceptable soil migration is detected, mitigation measures are implemented to reduce soil movement. Soil bridge measurement stations are also established across the profile of tread sections and monitored to determine soil movement and/or compaction within the tread prism. This process allows a soils specialist to analyze data across many years to determine what impacts, if any, are occuring within the trail prism. Soil monitoring on the San Bernardino National Forest is further proven effective by the fact that no trail has ever been closed due to excessive soil loss associated with OHV activity. (Soil monitoring results available at Supervisor's Office, Recreation) The forest OHV soil conservation plan is attached to this application.

Water quality is protected by the forest`s conservation program primarily through the placement of soil measurement pins adjacent leadoff ditches and treated water crossings on OHV trails. These sites are monitored by a soils technician to detect erosion and sediment loading into drainages. When unacceptable soil movement is detected, mitigation measures are implemented to reduce the amount of soil leaving the tread prism and entering the drainage. Impacts to water quality are reduced by monitoring and, when necessary, reducing the amount of sediment entering the watershed. See OHV Soil Conservation Plan attached to this application. Monitoring results are also available for review at the Supervisor`s Office, Recreation.

The forest WHPP/HMP explains, in detail, monitoring and mitigation measures in place to protect the special-status species on the forest. Please see WHPP/HMP attached to this application. Monitoring results and paper copies of the WHPP/HMP are available for review at the Supervisor`s Office, Recreation.

Known and suspected cultural sites are protected through routine monitoring by forest staff. The ERDS attached to the forest trail maintenance application also describes in detail measures taken during trail maintenance and conservation activities to protect cultural resources, including flagging, avoidance and on-site monitoring by heritage specialists during potentially ground-disturbing activities. Conservation activities described in this application are non-ground disturbing, and include visual monitoring of known heritage resources in and adjacent WHPP and restoration sites, specifically at Baldy Mesa and Holcomb Valley.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Conservation and restoration sites identified through quarterly WHPP monitoring are added to the list of restoration sites to be monitored, and will be monitored annually per the protocol identified in the WHPP. These sites will remain active on this list until the determination is made that restoration activities in the specified area have been fully successful, and additional site-specific monitoring is no longer needed. In addition to annual monitoring by forest staff, the new restoration sites will also be monitored, weeded and maintained primarily by the Green Thumb Volunteers, approximately twice a month during the growing season until established, which typically takes two to three years.

The Green Thumb Volunteers consistently contribute around 4,000 hours annually to the forest restoration and greenhouse programs at a value of over $90,000.00. Records are kept at the Mountain Top Ranger District in the Resources area for all volunteer projects.

WHPP and soil monitoring are also supported by volunteers, primarily SBNFA OHV Volunteers. It is estimated that this group contributes around 1000 hours annually to monitoring projects, at a value of over $20,000.00. SBNFA volunteer records are kept at the Big Bear Discovery Center where they can be reviewed.

The forest will continue to seek OHMVRD funding for conservation activities each year to support staff in development and monitoring of the WHPP/HMP, soil monitoring and operation of the forest greenhouse. The forest will also continue to support the program through appropriated federal funding and ongoing volunteer contributions. It is expected that the conservation program on the forest will be supported 70% through federal funds and volunteer contributions, while the remaining 30% will be sought from OHMVRD. Please see project costs for detailed information on program budget.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
X	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

The forest soil conservation and monitoring program describes in detail the use of hardened crossings, culverts and bridges to reduce soil loss and protect stream habitat. As a specific example, the Deep Creek trail crossing was bridged in 2004 (using Forest Service funds) to mitigates effects to TES species, and eliminates downstream sedimentation and erosion of banks. This proposal also includes the hardening and maintenance of native material low-water bridges at trail 2W01 crossing Deep Creek and 2E43 crossing Bautista Creek. See Soil Conservation Plan as part of this application for information on Deep Creek Bridge. See Trail Maintenance project description and Trail Maintenance Plan for description of hardening at Deep Creek and Bautista Creek. Detailed project records for the Deep Creek bridge are also availalble for review at the Supervisor`s Office, Engineering.

The attached Soil Conservation Plan identifies three separate methods of soil loss monitoring that are employed across the OHV system of the forest. Through these methods, most specifically monitoring of soil pins adjacent trails and leadouts, the forest is able to detect when soil movement (caused by water movement) exceeds acceptable levels. Based on the Soil Conservation Plan, when such a situtation is detected through soil loss monitoring, mitigation measures are developed and implemented to reduce the soil movement.

Water migration is further reduced through the implementation of an annual trail maintenance plan, which is developed based on results of soil monitoring described in this project. When unacceptable soil conditions or soil loss is discovered through monitoring, the subject trail or trail section is `promoted` to the earliest possible schedule for annual maintenance. During annual maintenance, trail tread is reshaped to prevent water from flowing down the trail and potentially crossing watershed boundaries. The attached Soil Conservation Plan describes mechanized maintenance activities in detail, including the reshaping and outsloping of tread to promote natural drainage of water across trails to allow for natural absorption of water into the soil and prevent water from traveling long distances along trail tread.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Sequoia National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Sequoia National Forest Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-15-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **22**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Funds from the conservation grant would allow the Forest to expand monitoring/survey work to include monitoring of down stream impacts of OHV use on streams.

There are several known natural and cultural resources in the vicinity of the Hume Lake Ranger District OHV routes. The Millwood Staging area and several routes are within the vicinity of the Mill Flat Creek Critical Aquatic Refuge and near the remains of historic logging sites. Several of the roads themselves overlay old wagon or railroad routes.

The Forest has conducted monitoring in the past on these OHV routes and the staging areas to ensure impacts to other resources from OHV use are minimal. There is a need to conduct additional condition inventories and monitoring. Soil and water quality monitoring is needed to ensure any deterioration of the OHV roads is caught and fixed to reduce potential for erosion and sedimentation into nearby water systemsin proximity to OHV roads and trails.

Stream monitoring would include use of Stream condition Index monitoring, including identification of macro invertebrates as an indicator of stream health down stream of OHV crossings. This funding would allow expansion of survey and monitoring efforts to survey/monitor for sensitive amphibians and reptiles including, the Kern Canyon slender salamander, Kern slender salamander, yellow blotched salamander, foothill yellow-legged frog, western pond turtle and California legless lizard.

Stream monitoring would include use of Stream condition Index monitoring, including identification of macro invertebrates as an indicator of stream health down stream of OHV crossings. This funding would allow expansion of survey and monitoring efforts to survey/monitor for sensitive amphibians and reptiles including, the Kern Canyon slender salamander, Kern slender salamander, yellow blotched salamander, foothill yellow-legged frog, western pond turtle and California legless lizard.

Stream monitoring would include use of Stream condition Index monitoring, including identification of macro invertebrates as an indicator of stream health down stream of OHV crossings. This funding would allow expansion of survey and monitoring efforts to survey/monitor for sensitive amphibians and reptiles including, the Kern Canyon slender salamander, Kern slender salamander, yellow blotched salamander, foothill yellow-legged frog, western pond turtle and California legless lizard.

Stream monitoring would include use of Stream condition Index monitoring, including identification of macro invertebrates as an indicator of stream health down stream of OHV crossings. This funding would allow expansion of survey and monitoring efforts to survey/monitor for sensitive amphibians and reptiles including, the Kern Canyon slender salamander, Kern slender salamander, yellow blotched salamander, foothill yellow-legged frog, western pond turtle and California legless lizard.

Stream condition inventory plots have been established on all streams possible across the Hume Lake Ranger District between 2002 and 2005. These permanent plots are used to gather baseline water quality data and resurveyed periodically to determine effects from both specific projects and recurring activities within the stream drainages. Under this conservation grant the needed monitoring of various streams, including Mill Flat Creek would occur in summer 2008.

The conservation grant would also help fund two Student Conservation Association volunteer interns in conducting wildlife and habitat monitoring in the vicinity of OHV use areas. There are several special status species including Pacific fisher, California spotted owl and Northern goshawk which are Forest Service sensitive species. Mill Flat Creek and environs is potential habitat for willow flycatchers, another Forest Service sensitive species. The Mill Flat Creek Critical Aquatic Refuge was established in part for the southwestern pond turtle, and hardhead fish.

Conducting the heritage surveys to current standard will close gaps in the survey coverage, and help establish a baseline for determining whether and how OHVs may be affecting heritage resources.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Future maintenance and operation costs will be funded through a variety of funds as they have been in the past on Hume Lake Ranger District. In the past few years with little to none greensticker funding, the HLRD has conducted monitoring of natural and cultural resources using a mix of appropriated funds, other grants and other funding sources. These other funding sources include Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act proceeds, and watershed and wildlife funds. The Hume Lake Ranger District has volunteer groups working on operations and maintenance of the OHV route system. This includes Hume Lake Christian Camp, American Motorcycle Association and Kingsburg 4WD club. The Christian Camp has been driving the OHV routes, informing visitors of regulations and advising Forest Service staff when they come across resource problems. The AMA has been working on maintaining the Verplank Trail since 2002. Several members of Kingsburg 4WD have helped with advising other OHV users in the Eshom area of the HL district about regulations and Tread Lightly ethics.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

The inventory, monitoring and subsequent report would help identify areas in need of conservation efforts to reduce erosion. Specific portions of OHV routes would be identified as well as preliminary recommendations on what type of conservation action to take. Recommendations will inlcude grade adjustment of routes to reduce erosion potential. It is likely that the monitoring will result in the need for NEPA analysis of a number of minor maintenance activities along the OHV roads and trails.

Recommendations to reroute away from sensitive areas, particularly riparian areas will be included where needed.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Sierra National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Sierra National Forest Bass Lake Ranger District Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-17-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **81**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Heavy maintenance and hand conservation activities will be completed to control sediment and erosion for the protection of water quality, improve watersheds and soil conservation. Soil collection in basins of OHV dips will be returned to trail tread, eliminating soil sediment into local streams or cultural sites. Techniques to be implemented using the Sweco dozer for the conservation activities to control sediment and erosion are recommended in Cam Lockwood`s (of Trails Unlimited) document "Trails 2000," August 1, 1994, and BMP s ref: USDA Forest Service, R5, Compiled from FS Manuals, Handbook and policy statements. Also, Water Quality Management for NF System Lands in California, April 1979. Soil monitoring data gathered will be following R5 Soils Specialist Brent Roth`s soil monitoring protocol ref: SNF Soil Monitoring Miami Motorcycle Trail Network, June 2000.

Soil monitoring data gathered will be assessed for potential effects to determine if a more intensive soil conservation program is needed. The goal is to prevent future damage and ensure sustainability of OHV recreation and continue to provide OHV recreation and opportunities.

Monitoring of prior conservation and restoration projects.

OHV Staff's completion of State approved wildlife and soils checklists will provide data for the assessment of trends in species populations and habitat impacts or such species as Spotted owl, Pacific fisher, and Yosemite toad. Results will be used to update the comprehensive WHPP/HMP. Ref: National Historic Preservation Act, 36CFR 296.4, OHV Heritage Programatic Agreement.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Future conservation maintenance funding sources will be Forest Service allocated dollars as well as county and non-profit contributions for grant opportunities and volunteers.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

Project signage incorporates information and guidance for traffic control and public education as to purpose of activities, location and date/time activities are to be implemented. Several signs on bulleting boards guide users to stay on the trail, avoid vegetation, avoid unmarked trails and to reduce user impacts by not traveling cross-country. These educational signs, along with "Pack it out" signs, guides the users to reducing their impacts on the recreation area. Ref: BLRD Draft OHV Sign Plan

Site specific planning for short term and long term aspects of projects ensures successful completion of activities, cost effectiveness and sustainable OHV use and opportunities, as shown in BLRD successes in prior conservcation projects in 2005. All planning efforts and related activities are site specific. Certain areas require specific conservation techniques to achieve the desired outcomes. Some trails and staging areas require heavy maintenance with mechanized equipment while others can get similar results with a trail crew and hand tools. More remote locations may even require another approach. All these efforts are used to promote sustainable use and keep resource impacts to a minimum. Ref: FSH 2309.18 Trails Management Handbook.

Appropriate conservation project design and timely implementation allows for the sustainment of viable habitats, soil conservation and healthy watersheds by preventing soil migration between watersheds. Soil migration or soil loss from OHV routes is of critical concern to resource managers. Well constructed routes, with adequate maintenance will prevent soil migration between watershed boundaries. Routes should be built with minimum slope steepness and rolling dips to keep soil in place and reduce the need for erosion control features. Reference: BMPs and Water Quality Management for National Forest System Lands in California, September 2000.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**6**	Division Findings	**6**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Sierra National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Sierra National Forest High Sierra Ranger District Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-17-C02**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **81**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Conducting conservation activities to control sediment and erosion for the protection of water quality, water shed improvement and soil conservation will help to reduce unnatural erosion. Ref: BMPs and Water Quality Managment for National Forest System Lands in California, September 2000.

Soil collected in waterbars or rolling dips will be returned to the trail tread, reducing soil movement into nearby streams.

The District has a multitude of special status species to protect. Most, whether botanical, aquatic or terrestrial wildlife, fall into the category of Forest Service Sensitive (FSS). Some of the species found near OHV routes include Yosemite bitterroot, Yosemite toad and Pacific fisher. Monitoring of the routes is done with state approved wildlife and soils checklists at least 50% of the routes and surveyed annually and reviewed by the resource specialists. These specialists summarize the results and make necessary management changes to benefit the special status species. Ref: WHPP/HMP.

Cultural sites are protected through conservation activities to control unnatural erosion. Soil loss can lead to degradation of cultural sites, exposing artifacts or other protected items. Cultural sites near OHV routes are blocked with natural barriers and monitored for damage and/or intrusion. Ref. National Historic Preservation Act, 36 CFR 296.4, OHV Heritage Resources Programatic Agreement.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Future conservation maintenance and operation costs would come from Forest Service allocated dollars. The High Sierra Ranger District has established an agreement with Fresno County to receive additional funding for conservation activities. Although not funding contributions, donated labor from volunteers will benefit the program. The District will also seek funding from the State's Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
X	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

All reroutes constructed with curvilinear design with gentle grades to reduce both natural and mechanical erosion. This technique blends in with natural slopes and promotes a more native or less "constructed" trail system that is easier on the landscape.

All reroutes will be constructed away from sensitive areas and drainages to reduce impacts to habitats of special status species and to retain integrity of watersheds.

If appropriate for use, bridges instead of wet crossings will be constructed with the goal of reducing the need for other erosion control features. This technique was used on the Dusy-Ershim route with great success.

Signage used incorporates traffic control and environmental education. Several signs on bulleting boards guide users to stay on the trail, avoid vegetation, avoid unmarked trails and to reduce user impacts by not traveling cross-country. These educational signs, along with "Pack it out" signs, guides the users to reducing their impacts on the recreation area.

All planning efforts and related activities are site specific. Certain areas require specific conservation techniques to achieve the desired outcomes. Some trails and staging areas require heavy maintenance with mechanized equipment while others can get similar results with a trail crew and hand tools. More remote locations may even require another approach. All these efforts are used to promote sustainable use and keep resource impacts to a minimum. Ref: FSH 2309.18 Trails Management Handbook.

Soil migration or soil loss from OHV routes is of critical concern to resource managers. Well constructed routes, with adequate maintenance will prevent soil migration between watershed boundaries. Routes should be built with minimum slope steepness and rolling dips to keep soil in place and reduce the need for erosion control features.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Six Rivers National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Six Rivers National Forest Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-18-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
X	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **12**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

The conservation project would benefit the sustained use of the Mad River Ranger District`s designated OHV trail system by monitoring motorized recreational use for potential effects to resources and prevention of future damage. As part of the Mad River District's OHV monitoring program, staff utilizes the state required base level soil loss and wildlife habitat / stream channel crossing monitoring checklist to identify whether the soil loss standard ("Soil Conservation Guidelines/Standards for Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Management," November 14, 1991, Department of Parks and Recreation) are being met on the trail system within the Pilot Creek area. If the soil loss standards are not met, corrective action is accomplished quickly if possible in order to avoid unnecessary increases in future maintenance costs. This is dimonstrated in the fact that previous monitoring has identified regular maintenance is required; however no "red" trail segments exist (see OHV Form G, Soil Condition Table within this application).

As part of the Mad River District's OHV monitoring program, staff identifies whether the state required soil loss standard and the Wildlife Habitat Protection Program (see OHV Form F, Parts 1 & 2, WHPP/HMP within this application) are being met on the trail system within the Pilot Creek area. A key attribute of the Pilot Creek watershed is its importance for maintaining anadromous fish stocks and other riparian dependent species. In recognition of this and other requirements, a variety of design features and additional monitoring needs are incorporated into the Pilot Creek Watershed Trail Use Strategy Environmental Assessment (EA) (see EA, Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) current and on file with the OHMVR Division) to avoid, minimize, reduce, or eliminate the foreseeable effects of management activities on water quality, mainly to prevent erosion that may potentially lead to the sedimentation of streams.

There are 12 special-status species identified and addressed through the WHPP/HMP (see OHV Form F, Part 2, Section 1 of WHPP/HMP within this application) pertaining to the Pilot Creek OHV area within the Mad River Ranger District. The species mostly benefiting from this monitoring project includes the Pacific Fisher, Northern Spotted Owl, Northern Goshawk, Foothill Yellow-legged Frog, Tailed Frog, Steelhead trout, Tracy's Sanicle, and Lupinus elmeri due to their presence in the area. Also, identified in this project request are funds needed to perform protocol surveys for northern spotted owl by a wildlife biologist in conformance with the WHPP/HMP.

A variety of design features and monitoring needs are incorporated into the Pilot Creek Trail Use Strategy EA to avoid, minimize, reduce, or eliminate the foreseeable effects of management activities. Several of these design features and subsequent monitoring needs were associated with rerouting segments of trails to avoid known cultural sites and monitoring in the case of intrusion. One trail analyzed in the EA was dropped from inclusion into the trail system due to cultural concerns.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Funding assistance, leveraged with agency funds for monitoring activities is and will be critical to enabling the Mad River Ranger District meet mandatory State OHV monitoring requirements associated with water quality, wildlife habitat protection and soil loss on its designated OHV trail system within the Pilot Creek area.

As part of the Mad River District`s OHV monitoring program, staff utilizes the state required base level soil loss and wildlife habitat/stream channel crossing monitoring checklist to identify whether the soil loss standard ("Soil Conservation Guidelines/Standards for Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Management," November 14, 1991, Department of Parks and Recreation) and the Wildlife Habitat Protection Program guidelines are being met on the trail system within the Pilot Creek area. If the soil loss standards are not met, corrective action is accomplished quickly if possible in order to avoid unnecessary increases in future maintenance costs.

As part of the District`s commitment to manage OHV recreational opportunities, past Adopt-a-Trail agreements have been signed between local motorized recreational clubs (e.g. Far West Motorcycle Club, and Lost Coast 4X4 Club) and the Forest. The use of these volunteers help accomplish additional monitoring and reporting of trail conditions, including light maintenance.

If monitoring indicates needed maintenance on trails in the Pilot Creek area the District most commonly utilizes either staff of a highly trained, well-equipped California Conservation Corps (CCC) workforce. In addition to using the skilled CCC labor force, they also provide a 25 percent match within their partnership agreement with the Forest Service to help the District achieve and maintain OHV trail management objectives. This work plus the volunteer efforts described above would continue regardless of receiving OHMVR Division Trust Funds.

In addition, the use of volunteers and other outside contributions is expected to increase as the Six Rivers NF OHV program expands due to the Forests OHV Route Designation process currently underway, as well as, increased environmental regulations, more competition for limited cooperative agreement funds and prospects for less available Federal appropriated funding.

Monitoring has and will continue being conducted in the Pilot Creek area, even though possibly at a lesser intensity, due to the potential lack of State supplemental funding. At a minimum, project level and site specific monitoring is implemented annually within the Pilot Creek area. The purpose of the project level and site specific monitoring includes the conformance with the Six Rivers National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP), the Pilot Creek Watershed Trail Use Strategy (EA), and the National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion (see Trail Maintenance Project, Environmental Documentation). All of which is in order to protect critical resources. It is estimated that the Forest will apply approximately $9,770 towards monitoring trails in the Pilot Creek area in 2007.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	3	Division Findings	3	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
X	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

This project is for the purpose of enabling the Mad River Ranger District meet mandatory State OHV monitoring requirements associated with water quality, wildlife habitat protection and soil loss on its designated OHV trail system within the Pilot Creek area. However, past State OHV funding assistance has resulted in large capital investments in the Pilot Creek OHV trail system. All six of the conservation project design objectives for reducing the need for erosion control features identified in this OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects, Evaluation Criteria Number 4 were incorporated into the Pilot Creek Watershed Trail Use Strategy EA and identified lastly in the Six Rivers 2003-2004 Cooperative Agreement Application as an attachment titled 2004 Implementation Maintenance Schedule on file with the OHMVR Division.

See explanation under "Rerouting Incorporates Curvilinear Design With Gentle Grades".

See explanation under "Rerouting Incorporates Curvilinear Design With Gentle Grades".

See explanation under "Rerouting Incorporates Curvilinear Design With Gentle Grades".

See explanation under "Rerouting Incorporates Curvilinear Design With Gentle Grades".

See explanation under "Rerouting Incorporates Curvilinear Design With Gentle Grades".

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.

Explain each item checked above:

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 3, Conservation Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Tahoe National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Tahoe National Forest Conservation**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-20-C01**

CONSERVATION PROJECT CRITERIA

If Project is Scientific Research, omit items 2 and 3. Other Conservation Projects omit items 5 and 6.

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	10% - 25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., $1,000 worth of volunteer hours of conservation work, or cash contribution towards purchase.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Impacts to natural and Cultural Resources should be avoided or minimized whenever possible. The Conservation Project would benefit: ***(Check all that apply). If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.***

X	Soils, by reducing unnatural erosion **(2 points)**
X	Water quality **(2 points)**
X	Special-status Species **(2 points for each special-status species which would benefit, up to a maximum of 6 points)** Number of Special-status Species: **6**
X	A cultural site **(2 points)**

Explain each item checked above:

Soils: implementation of BMPs including erosion/sediment control structures and stream crossing improvements at Sugar Pine, and Russell Valley

Water quality: implementation of BMPs including erosion/sediment control structures and stream crossing improvements at Sugar Pine, and Russell Valley.

Special Status Species: monitoring at Garden Point (bald eagle), Scotts Flat Reservoir (bald eagle), Rattlesnake Creek (yellow-legged frog), Greenhorn Creek (yellow-legged frog), Gold Valley (willow flycatcher), Downieville trails (goshawk and spotted owl), Canyon Creek, and Eureka Diggings (fairy shrimp); monitor OHV impacts to Phacelia stebbinsii at Pierce, noxious weeds at Burlington Ridge; Lewisia kelloggii ssp. Kelloggii at Table Mountain and monitoring fens at Summit lake and Pat Yore Flat.

Archaeological/historical sites: Monitoring and protecting multiple, known cultural heritage sites in the Sugar Pine, Burlington, Pierce, Rattlesnake, Hawley, and Cal-Ida areas where they have been some known OHV impacts.

Scoring: Maximum of 12 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

3. Funding Source for Future Maintenance and Operation costs in conservation area -
In 500 words or less, describe how future maintenance and operational costs would be funded.
If the Applicant's Conservation Project is Scientific Research, skip this question.

Through various laws, agency regulation, and direction, specifically from our primary planning document, the Tahoe NF Land Management Plan, and implemented through NEPA documents, the Forest engages in conservation and preservation on land disturbing projects.

The Forest receives appropriated dollars for recreation personnel and resource specialists to do maintenance and operation of OHV recreation facilities, trails and roads, among other work. The Forest will continue to receive appropriated dollars for conservation work.

In the past we have applied for, or have had partners assist us in procuring grants for conservation efforts. We have been successful in getting a National Forest Foundation (NFF) grant to pay for bear resistant dumpsters in the French Meadows area and TEA21 grants for North Yuba Trail Extension and Highway 20 Projects. Project file folders are available at the Tahoe NF Supervisor's Office.

Our partners and volunteers have been active for years in assisting us with conservation efforts. A partner highlight is on the Truckee Ranger District of the Forest. The event is called Truckee River Days: The year 2006 marked the 11th year of Truckee River Day. All projects focused on improving water quality and aquatic and riparian habitat. The sponsor is the Truckee Watershed Council in conjunction with the Tahoe NF and other conservation agencies. Last year, over 550 volunteers worked at eleven sites doing restoration in the watershed. (2006 Report on Partnerships in PSW, Region 5, USDA Forest Service pp.34-35) We also participate in local events such as the Foresthill Frenzy, which occurred last early summer 2007; both the Forest Service and partners set up booths and trailers promoting and educating the public on recreation and OHV use and safety. The Forest anticipates future partnership efforts and events, including but not exclusive, with North Tahoe Snow Travelers, One Track Mind, Diablo 4-Wheelers, California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs, Placer County Search and Rescue, High Sierra Motorcycle Club, Riders Under the Sun, Friends of the Rubicon, Tahoe Back Country Ski patrol, Nevada County Woods Riders, Four Dice 4WD Club, Grass Valley 4WD Club, Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship, Sierra Buttes Snowbusters, Sacramento Jeepers, Boony Bouncers, California Off-Road Vehicle Association (CORVA), National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOOHVCC), Friends of Foresthill OHV Trails (FOFOT), and many motorcycle volunteers dedicated to OHV recreation activities. These groups perform such work as cutting downed logs, cleaning waterbars, rolling dips and other drainage structures and cutting back brush growing into trailways. Some volunteers also assist with such winter activities such as keeping OSV trails clear from fallen or unstable objects and resurrecting trail signs.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(4 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of funding sources **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Conservation Project design reduces need for erosion control features - *(Check all that apply.)*	
X	Rerouting incorporates Curvilinear design with gentle grades.
X	Trail is rerouted away from sensitive areas, drainages.
X	Bridges are used instead of wet crossings.
X	Project uses signage that incorporates traffic control and environmental education.
X	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
X	Water migration between watershed boundaries would be prevented

Explain each item checked above:

Rerouting. One of the most popular trail systems on the Forest, the Third Divide trail, has been designed and rerouted on a 30 foot wide, 1,000 foot section to create a very good grade of trail. It was designed as a sustainable design with low maintenance needs.

Sensitive Areas. The Empire trail was recently rerouted outside of a meadow area on the Yuba River Ranger District.

Bridges. Forbes Creek on the American River Ranger District.

Signs. Temporary forest orders and other OHV maps and literature are posted at trailheads and staging areas as standard procedure for rider education and edification. Currently the Tahoe NF is in the process of OHV route designation and in that process, pertinent route designation maps are being designed to contain traffic control and environmental education messages. (Tahoe NF Route Designation EIS August 2007).

Sustainable Use. In recent years, the Tahoe NF has acquired land in the Independence Lake area; this land base was added to our winter OSV closed area.

Water Migration/Diversion. Water diversion between watershed boundaries are prevented by routes being designed to keep water off trails; by construction and maintenance of drainage structures; outsloping of trails; and by preventing water concentrations over long distances.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 12 points.				
Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would help to determine or provide guidance to the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	OHV Program Management plan.
	Maintenance practices.
	Conservation practices.
	Site specific Project planning to promote sustainable use.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

6. Scientific Research Projects ONLY - Scientific Research element of Project would document the following: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses.
	Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands
	Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation.
Explain each item checked above:	

Scoring: 2 points each a maximum of 8 points				
Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 38				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM Barstow Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM Barstow Field Office Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-04-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

The project addresses each of these resources in a similar fashion, by restoring damage done from previous illegal intrusions. This work has a two prong approach. First, by restoring the damage the health of the ecosystem is restored. Second, by removing the physical traces future intrusions and related impacts are prevented.

In the case of soils, the restoration work will help protect soils by reducing wind and water erosion. The desert soils around Dumont Dunes are very sensitive to disturbances. When left alone, these soils form a natural crust which helps hold the soil together and resist wind and rain erosion forces. However, after the crust is broken by illegal OHV intrusions the disturbances generally result in accelerated erosion. Gullies begin to form. The work will restore the natural contour. The restoration work removing hillclimbs along the Amargosa and Salt Rivers will stabilize these soils and significantly reduce the potential for gullies to form.

Conversely, as the restoration work stabilizes the soils and prevents new intrusions, erosion is reduced and the water quality in nearby rivers is improved. The restoration work would also directly benefit water quality in the nearby rivers by helping prevent future OHV intrusion in the rivers themselves. Some of the illegal intrusions that would be restored are in or cross the Salt and Amargosa riverbeds.

The restoration work would benefit both special-status species habitat and cultural resources on public land surrounding Dumont Dunes. Both of these resources are co-located on lands currently impacted from illegal OHV intrusions. Primarily, the restoration work would help prevent future intrusions into special-status species habitat for fish and birds along both the Salt and Amargosa Rivers. Similarly, significant cultural resources exist in the adjoining Salt Creek and Amargosa River ACECs. Restoring these impacts and removing traces of previous motorized intrusions would stabilize and help protect these sensitive resources from future impacts.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
X	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The public lands adjacent to Dumont Dunes are closed to motorized use. However, it is clear from law enforcement reports, wilderness monitoring, and the tracks on the ground, that riders routinely ignore the boundary and ride OHVs illegally in the closed areas. The prima facie evidence overwhelming indicates this is a growing trend. Designated protected areas closed to motorized use outside the open area include the Ibex and Kingston Range Wildernesses; the Salt Creek and Amargosa River ACECs; the Avawatz wilderness study area; Death Valley N.P.; the eligible Amargosa Wild and Scenic River; and the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. In some of these places OHV intrusions have impacted significant wilderness, cultural, historic, biological and scenic resources. These public lands and resources were never open to motorized use.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

All the above measures are being applied to help ensure the success of this restoration project. Law enforcement Rangers will continue to patrol the perimeter and enforce closures on public lands surrounding the OHV open area. They will also patrol the new barrier to prevent vandalism. All existing law enforcement efforts will continue as described in the section of this grant discussing how closures are enforced. Site specific planning is an on-going process involving monitoring and adaptive management techniques. The perimeter barrier is an example of this planning process.

Through site specific planning we recognized a potential significant impact to regional OHV opportunities from the perimeter barrier. As initially proposed, the barrier would have blocked legal motorized access around the dunes on the east, between the T&T railroad grade and the Sperry Wash Route. Through interdisciplinary planning action administrative adjustments were identified for the designated NEMO route network. These route adjustments were included in the proposed action, analyzed and approved as part of the Dumont Dunes Supplemental EA, 2007. These alternative routes were incorporated into the designated legal route network to help ensure OHV activities would not reoccur in the closed or restored areas.

Monitoring has identified continuing OHV intrusions in closed areas around the dunes. The management plan calls for a tiered response for boundary intrusions. We began implementing boundary controls over 20 years ago when the open area was designated. This included boundary signs, maps, flyers, kiosks, webpages, visitor services, and law enforcement. We updated the main entry kiosk a few years ago to show clearly the open area boundaries. Despite these efforts the illegal intrusions have increased over the years. Now, according to our initial tiered plan actions we are constructing a perimeter barrier.

The restoration work incorporates the latest known best management practices for dry lands restoration techniques. The Barstow field office has been successfully restoring sensitive desert lands for over twenty (20) years. This work includes the use of native plants and materials to disguise vehicle tracks. Vertical and horizontal mulching is done to encourage successful native seed establishment. Then these restored areas are signed to educate the public as to the restoration work that has been completed. The Barstow OHV website will be updated following this work to educate the public to this program.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

The 1980 California Desert Conservation Area Plan (CDCA) as amended. The CDCA Plan was reprinted in 1999. The reprinted version, plus the NEMO and West Mojave amendments, is available online at: http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/planning.html. The Dumont Dunes OHV Recreation Area Management Plan, June 1990. The Management Plan for Salt Creek Hills ACEC, 1982. The Management Plan for the Amargosa Canyon Natural Area ACEC, 1980. The draft Amargosa River ACEC Management Plan, 2007. Copies of the Dumont Dunes and ACEC management plans are available in the Barstow Field Office.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Future operational costs changes should be nominal for this project. The bulk of the work to restore illegal intrusions into closed areas will be done during the project. Follow up work will consist of monitoring, law enforcement and minor restoration work. We are currently doing monitoring, law enforcement and minor intrusion restoration work with these services paid from existing funding sources. We have a Wilderness Specialist that patrols and monitors the boundaries near the open area looking for OHV intrusions. This person spends many days out in wilderness areas with a rake just removing the tracks left by people wandering into the wilderness areas. They also re-mark boundaries and pick up the trash left by riders. This cost money.

These expenses are paid from our annual appropriated funds or permit fee revenue collected on site. We may use wilderness funds for the part along wilderness, or our maintenance funds, or even our recreation funds. Combined, the proposed new perimeter barrier and restoration work will likely reduce the amount of staff time and energy spent enforcing the closures. These costs savings will likely offset the maintenance costs for the new barrier and restoration work. Therefore, we anticipate no net change in operational costs for the dunes because of this project.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM Bishop Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM Bishop Field Office Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-05-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.
The project involves closing two steep hill climbs, the source being illegal OHV use. Implementation of this project would help prevent soil erosion, displacement and compaction. Additionally, this would allow vegetation to grow in now barren areas which would improve water shed qualities and improve wildlife habitat.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
X	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

These are illegal hill climbs, illegal use has taken place on, around or immediately adjacent to the routes. Furthermore, these hill climbs do not meet Resource Management Plan objectives or Best Management Practices. Hill climbs exceed 22% grade causing soil erosion. They degrade visual resources and reduce wildlife habitat.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law enforcement will patrol the Project area, along with the adjacent areas, at a minimum of twice per week, weekends and midweek. The Ranger will contact persons they see in the area and describe the Project, requesting compliance. The Ranger will also have a brochure describing why the Project was implemented. Site specific project planning: Bishop Resource Management Plan (RMP) (1993) outlines specific Standard Operating Procedures that facilitate site recovery following disturbance (Table 1) and that should be used as a basis for implementation of more site-specific restoration actions. Barriers will consist of large native rocks placed to restrict vehicle entry. Native plants, grown at our propagation center will be used to help control invasive species that become established on a degraded site. Best management practices are incorporated into our Standard Operating Procedures and can be found on our Web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bishop/restoration/rp_standardop.html> Educational signing, along with outreach at population centers in proximity to the Project and the above mentioned Ranger contact is incorporated into the Project planning and implementation.

A component the Project involves a hiking trail that has become a motorized hill climb. There will be no incorporation of an alternative route for this segment. However, other portions of the Project will incorporate an alternative route.

Bishop Resource Management Plan 1993 and Environmental Assessment CA-170-06-26 are on file with the Division.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Bishop Resource Management Plan 1993 and Environmental Assessment CA-170-06-26 on file with the Division.

http://www.blm.gov/ca/pdfs/bishop_pdfs/eadocs/fy06/restoration_ea_final_for_web.pdf

Applicant Score	5	Division Findings	5	Concur.

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Funding for future maintenance cost is expected to be low due to the design and constructions methods. (there would be no operational cost associated with this project) Funding for future maintenance costs will become part of the Bishop BLM annual operational costs. These cost will be spread between several subactivities from congressionally designated funds for the Management of Lands and Resources.(MLR)

In 2007 the planned MLR dollars are as follows and documentation can be found at the Bishop BLM public room in a binder named 2008 Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Information.

Subactivity
1110 Wildlife $122,000
1220 Recreation $279,000
1651 Annual maintenance $ 99,000
1652 Deferred maintenance $112,000

Additionally, as an example of BLM funding future maintenance/operational costs would be the "Fish Slough Blow-Out" restoration Project which was originally funded by a OHMVRD grant in 1998. In 2002, to increase survivorship of native vegetation BLM staff performed additional work described in the following link.
<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bishop/restoration/rp_fishsloughblowout.html>

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	5	Division Findings	5	Concur.

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM California Desert District Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM California Desert District Office Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-06-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Designated route plans were implemented throughout the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) to comply with the CDCA Plan as amended. The CDCA Plan and amendments encompass the CDCA Resource Area and incorporate previous designated route networks from existing regional management plans. The process of delisting the federally threatened species and preventing the federal listing of the state listed and sensitive species includes reclaiming degraded habitat and reducing habitat fragmentation. The CDD closed trail restoration project will increase native vegetation cover, reduce habitat destruction and fragmentation, and prevent OHV trespass in protected and closed areas. Route designation in Desert Wildlife Management Areas were evaluated and designated closed if: 1) they impacted sensitive species or occupied habitat of sensitive species; 2) an alternative route served the same purpose; 3) they were likely to lead to increased conservation of sensitive species; and 4) the closure would mitigate other cumulative habitat impacts and/or help maintain more/larger contiguous blocks of habitat which might aid in the recovery of sensitive species.

While the primary reasons for designating closed trails and restoring habitat are improving population viability, decreasing habitat fragmentation, and recovery of listed species, many secondary benefits are achieved. Revegetation of denuded habitat leads to stabilization of soils through root formation and dissipated rainsplash. Rainsplash is the effect of precipitation hitting the soil directly, thus putting loose soil into motion and accelerating erosion. Accelerating revegetation and planting "nurse plants" using dead native plant material increases the interception of rain before it reaches the soil, thus reducing the velocity of rain and rainsplash that lead to accelerated erosion. In addition, water dispersal structures (e.g., water bars and check dams) are created on the restoration sites with greater than moderate slopes and where rilling and gullification are occurring. Excessive runoff and surface flows resulting from heavy precipitation microevents channelize on existing roads, increasing water flows and incising soil into rills and gullies. Diverting the flows off of the road disperses the water accumulation and reduces accelerated soil erosion. Decreasing soil erosion through the preceding practices leads to better water quality in desert washes and riparian zones. Soil erosion increases sedimentation in water bodies, leading to decreased oxygen, increased nutrient levels, and turbidity, all of which decrease water quality. Restoring closed OHV trails also decreases the PM-10 (particulate matter) levels in air quality. Cultural resources are protected when restoration sites prevent unauthorized access. While cultural preservation is not the primary reason for restoration, secondary benefits are experienced. Many of the incursions to be restored enter in to biologically diverse and rich canyons. These canyons were historical gathering, hunting, and habitation areas. Many cultural resources are indirectly protected as a result of closed trail restoration.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The designated route closures were necessitated to ensure the existence and protection of numerous special status species. The CDCA Plan, as amended in five regional plan amendments assessed the environmental effects of adopting the motorized vehicle access network developed through the West Mojave, Northern and Eastern Colorado, and Coachella Valley HCP planning processes and addressed specific special status species. Among these are the federally-listed desert tortoise and Mojave fringe-toed lizard, state-listed Mohave ground squirrel, and numerous BLM sensitive species including LeConte's thrasher and burrowing owl.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

The CDD restoration sites are in high non-compliance wilderness areas and require intensive fencing and barricading in addition to traditional restoration techniques. These are difficult sites to restore or where restoration is not sufficient. The fencing, bouldering, and other barricading is used to further discourage OHV trespass. In the current project areas, law enforcement patrols are made on a daily basis, LE rangers are informed of the restoration areas, and coordinated law enforcement “stings” reduce instances of OHV wilderness trespass through increased citations and prosecution (see Law Enforcement Efforts of this project). Site-specific planning is instrumental in the success of closed trail restoration. Dead native plant material is used to disguise the trail and foster revegetation of native species on the site. Each site is unique in vegetation type and cover and restoration techniques replicate the density and flora of the site.
Intensity of user compliance will be monitored for evidence of new vehicle tracks and revegetation occurring after site restoration. Photo-monitoring will be used to evaluate the visual eradication of linear features (i.e., closed trails). Vegetation monitoring will be conducted on a sample of sites in each of the project areas to assess accelerated revegetation and establishment of native plant species. Randomly-chosen or area-specific previously restored closed trails will be monitored for effectiveness and vegetation cover. Each site is given a unique identifier comprised of the polygon, designated route, and incursion number. Monitoring data for each site include: Date of restoration, area restored, restoration techniques (see Project Description of this project) employed on the site, type of incursion (e.g. hillclimb, parallel, crosstrail, etc.), OHV activity prior to restoration, past vandalism, and other past management. These data will be used to compare success rates among the restored sites based on proximity to OHV open areas, recreational value of closed trails (i.e., motivation for illegal trespass), restoration techniques, and supplemental management, such as additional law enforcement, barricading, signing, and fencing.

The California Desert District restoration strategies, planning, implementation, and techniques are among the most innovative for arid lands restoration related to OHV recreation and trail reclamation. The Best Management Practices in this area have been developed and continue to improve during a seven-year partnership with the SCA (Student Conservation Association) in the California desert. The designated open routes in the restoration project area are well-signed and maintained, which assists OHV recreational users in legal riding and aids law enforcement personnel. In addition to well-signed open routes, informational and educational signs are employed in the project area to identify desert restoration projects and the importance of maintaining viable wildlife habitat while providing recreation opportunities. All restoration sites are adjacent to designated open routes which provide recreation opportunities in the restored area.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan
Western Mojave Amendment to the CDCA Plan
Northern and Eastern Mojave Amendment to the CDCA Plan
Northern and Eastern Colorado Amendment to the CDCA Plan
Western Colorado Amendment to the CDCA Plan
Coachella Valley Habitat Conservation Plan Amendment

All documents can be viewed at: http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/planning.html

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Future operational costs associated with the CDD restoration projects will be a combination of OHV Trust Funds, BLM operational budgets, and volunteer support provided by the restoration crewmembers. OHV trust funds are the major financial support for OHV-related restoration in the Desert District. Without this funding, large-scale designated closed trail restoration would not occur. In the implementation of the projects, BLM staff dedicate a percentage of their time and resources to the success of the project. The volunteer efforts of the restoration crew members are invaluable in the success of the CDD restoration projects, of which would not occur without their valuable contribution.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM California State Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM California State Office Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-07-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

The gabbro soils of the Rescue Soil Series found the Pine Hill Preserve are essential to support the habitat for several endemic plant species. Soil loss from erosion degrades the habitats of rare plants. This planning project would halt soil loss.

Gabbro soils are naturally high in toxic metals, particularly nickel, chromium, and manganese (CA State Parks and Recreation. 2003. Draft Resource Inventory, Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, p I-4). Because the landscape of the Pine Hill area is steep, vehicle travel cross-county and on foot trails worsens the high natural erosion rate and causes greater amounts of sediment containing heavy metals to enter streams that flow into the South Fork of the American River and Folsom Lake. Halting erosion would help reduce sediment flows and metals from entering these water bodies.

Pine Hill Preserve is globally significant habitat for the following federally listed endangered species: Stebbins' Morning-Glory (Calystegia stebbinsii), Pine Hill Ceanothus (Ceanothus roderickii), Pine Hill Flannel Bush (Fremontodendron decumbens), and El Dorado Bedstraw (Galium californicum ssp. sierrae); federally threatened Layne's Ragwort (Packera layneae); plus El Dorado Mule Ears (Wyethia reticulata) and Red Hills Soaproot (Chlorogalum grandiflorum) both, BLM Special Status Species, and Bisbee Peak rush-rose (Helianthemum suffrutescens), listed by the California Native Plant society as rare.

Decades of intensive mining in the area began during the Gold Rush. Mining activity focused on drainages where placer gold occurs. Virtually all drainages in the area have been scoured for gold at least once since the 1848 Gold Rush began. Identifying, preserving, and protecting the cultural resources at the Pine Hill Preserve from the Gold Rush Era are part of the management activities. Avoiding adverse effects on cultural resources will continue to be the preferred treatment.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.				
Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

Seven special status species of global significance are found within the Preserve: Federally-listed endangered species: Stebbins' Morning-Glory (Calystegia stebbinsii), Pine Hill Ceanothus (Ceanothus roderickii), Pine Hill Flannel Bush (Fremontodendron decumbens), and El Dorado Bedstraw (Galium californicum ssp. sierrae); Federally-listed threatened Layne's Ragwort (Packera layneae); plus El Dorado Mule Ears (Wyethia reticulata) and Red Hills Soaproot (Chlorogalum grandiflorum), both BLM Special Status Species. Bisbee Peak rush-rose (Helianthemum suffrutescens), listed by the California Native Plant society as rare, is another rare plant targeted for conservation at the Preserve; this species has no BLM special status

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Measures in this restoration planning grant will ensure success and learning by:
1. planning for increased law enforcement patrols along to Pine Hill Preserve perimeter, including by foot and outreach to OHV clubs in Sacramento and the Sierra foothills and to visitors at Prairie City SVRA;
2. developing multiple site-specific soil stabilization and revegetation prescriptions that address unique soils and requirements for habitats of rare plant species;
3. incorporating design for reinforced fencing construction and barriers to discourage breaching the Preserve boundary;
4. using only non-listed native plants from Pine Hill Preserve seed stock and cuttings that are grown out in advance of the project starts - with particular emphasis on staple plants such as chamise, ceanothus, manzanitas, native bunch grasses, and oaks, with volunteers assisted by the Preserve manager and the BLM Folsom botanist;
5. consulting with soil and plant ecologists specializing gabbro soil environments to develop the first BMPs for the special environments of the Pine Hill Preserve; and
6. designing interpretive and explanatory signage that guides and informs Preserve visitors and enhances public appreciation of the need for secure Preserve boundaries.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:	
X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

The BLM Folsom Field Office covers management of the Pine Hill Preserve ACEC under its May 2007 Sierra Resource Proposed Management Plan and Final EIS as a non-motorized area. The Plan and EIS are available for viewing on-line at:
http://www.blm.gov/ca/pdfs/folsom_pdfs/Proposed_RMP_Final_EIS/0a_cover.pdf

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

The BLM understands the need not to depend on the OHMVR Trust Funds for funding restoration projects in the long-term. This planning project will set in motion a series of restoration projects, some of which may have requests for funding from the OHMVR Trust Funds in FY 2009 for one-year projects. Labor, however, would come exclusively from BLM employees and from Pine Hill Preserve volunteers and the OHV recreation community. Funding for fencing and interpretive and explanatory signs would be the major request for restoration projects. In the long run, once the restoration projects developed under this planning grant are complete, BLM expects that the resource objectives and protection of rare plant resources will be met by BLM funds, local agencies contributing funds, and from volunteer services.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**3**	**The narrative describes a combination of funding sources.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM El Centro Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM El Centro Field Office Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-09-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.
The restoration project would benefit habitat, cultural resources, and soils by eliminating closed routes and off route impacts that attract OHV users. With these impacts restored the visual cue would be removed thus helping the users to stay on legal routes and off sensitive habitat , cultural resources and reduce soil compaction and eroision.

Reference: Restoration and Signing for the Western Colorado Routes of Travel Plan (WECO) and Northern and Eastern Colorado Management Plan (NECO) Environmental Assessment CA670-EA2004-45

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
X	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The Western Colorado Routes of Travel Management Plan(WECO) for the El Centro Field office, Imperial county area, was signed in 2003. The plan closed some routes and the biological opinion for the WECO plan by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service(USF&WS) states that Bureau of Land Management(BLM) will restore those closed routes.

The WECO plan and the biological opianion for the plan are located at the El Centro field office.

Applicant Score	**1**	Division Findings	**1**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

One of the major components in choosing restoration sites is the potential for success. On sites in high non-compliance areas (e.g., adjacent to an OHV open area), site restoration will be postponed until intensive outreach, education, and law enforcement can supplement the restoration process. In the current project area, law enforcement patrols are made on a regular basis, LE rangers are informed of the restoration areas, and coordinated law enforcement “stings” reduce instances of OHV trespass through increased citations and prosecution. Site-specific planning is instrumental in the success of closed trail restoration. Dead native plant material is used to disguise the trail and foster revegetation of native species on the site. Each site is unique in vegetation type and cover and the restoration techniques replicate the density and flora of the site. On sites that are difficult to restore or where restoration is not sufficient, fencing, bouldering, and other barricading is used to further discourage OHV trespass.

Intensity of user compliance will be monitored for evidence of new vehicle tracks and revegetation occurring after site restoration. Photo-monitoring will be used to evaluate the visual eradication of linear features (i.e., closed trails). Vegetation monitoring will be conducted on a sample of sites in each of the project areas to assess accelerated revegetation and establishment of native plant species. Randomly-chosen or area-specific previously restored closed trails will be monitored for effectiveness and vegetation cover. Each site is given a unique identifier comprised of the polygon, designated route, and incursion number. Monitoring data for each site include: Date of restoration, area restored, restoration techniques employed on the site, type of incursion (e.g. hillclimb, parallel, crosstrail, etc.), OHV activity prior to restoration, past vandalism, and other past management. Data will be used to compare success rates among the restored sites based on proximity to OHV open areas, recreational value of closed trails (i.e., motivation for illegal trespass), restoration techniques, and supplemental management, such as additional law enforcement, barricading, signing, and fencing.

The El Centro Field Office restoration strategies, planning, implementation, and techniques are among the most innovative for arid lands restoration related to OHV recreation and trail reclamation. The Best Management Practices in this area have been developed and continue to improve during a five-year partnership with the SCA (Student Conservation Association) in the California desert. The designated open routes in the restoration project area are well-signed and maintained, which assists OHV recreational users in legal riding and aids law enforcement personnel. In addition to well-signed open routes, informational and educational signs and kiosks are employed in the project area to identify desert restoration projects and the importance of maintaining viable wildlife habitat while providing recreation opportunities. All restoration sites are adjacent to designated open routes which provide recreation opportunities in the restored area.

Refernce: Restoration and Signing for the Western Colorado Routes of Travel Plan (WECO) and Northern Colorado Management Plan (NECO) Environmental Assessment CA670-EA2004-45 located at the El Centro Field Office.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Western Colorado Route of Travel Plan signed February 2003 and can be located at the Bureau of Land Managemnet, El Centro Field Office.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Future operational costs will be funded from congressionally allocated funds to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), El Centro Field Office (ECFO) and by successful grant applications with the Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVR).

BLM El Centro Field office annual budget allocations figures and past OHMVR grant allocations available upon request.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM Hollister Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM Hollister Field Office Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-11-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Soils – Restoration will protect soils from erosion by reducing transport.

Water quality – Restoration will reduce sediment and heavy metals transport to surrounding watersheds.

Special-status Species habitat – Restoration will reduce erosion and sediment deposition (burial) of San Benito evening primrose habitat within the San Carlos, Upper Clear Creek, and Sawmill Creek watersheds. Restoration will also reduce sedimentation and heavy metal pollution of yellow-legged frog habitat within the same watersheds.

Cultural resources – Restoration will reduce erosion and degradation of the overlapping prehistoric lithic scatter/historic cabin site identified as RNA Cabin Site 91100.

Please see Baseline Documents for Project #`s OR-1-H-27 and OR-1-H-20 - January 2006 Record of Decision- Section 3; and the San Benito Mountain Research Natural Area Pilot Restoration EAin its entirety.

Please also see General Project Description and PCD.

Please See Appendix B.

Also Available as Hard Copy at BLM Hollister Field Office:

Geomorphic Field Evaluation of Serpentinite Soil Barrens, Clear Creek Management Area (Dynamac Corporation, 1998), pp. 48 and 59.

Road Erosion Inventory and Action Plan for the Clear Creek Management Area (Pacific Watershed Associates, August 1995), Sections IV, V and Appendix 7.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

Restoration will reduce erosion and sediment deposition (burial) of San Benito evening primrose habitat within the San Carlos, Upper Clear Creek, and Sawmill Creek watersheds. Restoration will also reduce sedimentation and heavy metal pollution of yellow-legged frog habitat within the same watersheds. Restoration will reduce erosion and degradation of prehistoric/historic RNA Cabin Site 91100.

Please see Baseline Documents for Project #`s OR-1-H-27 and OR-1-H-20 - January 2006 Record of Decision, Section 3 and Appendix D; and the San Benito Mountain Research Natural Area Pilot Restoration EA in its entirety.

Also: Geomorphic Field Evaluation of Serpentinite Soil Barrens, Clear Creek Management Area (Dynamac Corporation, 1998), pp. 48, 59 and section 4.0 in its entirety.

Please also see General Project Description and PCD.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law enforcement - The SBMRNA is regularly patrolled by law enforcement. Law enforcement will ensure that OHV trespass into restoration areas is minimized, thereby allowing revegetated areas to establish vegetative cover without being disturbed.

Site specific project planning - All erosion control and revegetation plans will be tailored to each sites unique erosion features and revegetation challenges, thereby increasing erosion control and revegetation success.

Construction of barriers - Barricades including boulder and log placement, vertical mulching, and fencing will be placed to prevent OHV entry to the site. Barriers are critical to prevent OHV trespass and disturbance impacts within the restoration areas.
Use of native plants and materials - Native, locally-collected serpentine-tolerant plant materials will be used in this restoration project. The use of native, locally-collected serpentine-tolerant plant species ensures that the plants will have the ability to tolerate the harsh conditions of the serpentine restoration sites, thereby increasing revegetation success.

Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices” - Best Management Practices for erosion control as recommended by the Dynamac Corp. will be used in the project. Physical erosion control is an integral part of the project in order to stabilize the landscape prior to revegetation.

Educational signage - Restoration/Reforestation signs will be posted to inform the public about the project and its environmental values.

Incorporation of alternate OHV routes - The 2006 Clear Creek Management Area RMP Amendment and Record of Decision designated an open route network of 242 miles. All remaining routes are closed and have been signed as such. R11, R13, and T153 through the SBMRNA, remain open for travel.

Please see Baseline Documents for Project #`s OR-1-H-27 and OR-1-H-20 - January 2006 Record of Decision, Section 3 and Appendix D; and the San Benito Mountain Research Natural Area Pilot Restoration EA in its entirety.

See General Project Description and PCD for further discussion of methods and materials.

Please see Appendix B for Complete list of Scientific Study references.

Available as Hard Copy at BLM Hollister Field Office:

Geomorphic Field Evaluation of Serpentinite Soil Barrens, Clear Creek Management Area (Dynamac Corporation, April, 1998), pp. 48 and 59, and Section 4.0 in its entirety.

Road Erosion Inventory and Action Plan for the Clear Creek Management Area (Pacific Watershed

Associates, August, 1995), Sections IV, V and Appendix 7.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

January 2006 Record of Decision - Baseline Document for Project #`s OR-1-H-27 and OR-1-H-20.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**0**	**The narrative does not describe a "Management Plan".**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Future operational costs will be funded by a combination of user fees, OHV trust funds and volunteer work provided by the Sierra Club and the CAL4WD, Salinas Ramblers, and Timekeepers OHV clubs.

BLM Hollister Field Office will begin charging recreation fees for Clear Creek Management Area beginning January 2008. These fees will be utilized exclusively, by policy, for maintenance and operation costs associated with the management area.

Please see Appendix H for a copy of the Business Plan to charge fees.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office** **Blythe - Colorado River Corridor Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-13-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

a. Soils

This project will benefit both short and long-term soil conditions.

Vegetation cover in the desert is critical because it retains soil. By trampling and ripping out vegetation, OHV traffic off authorized routes creates surface disturbance that damages this natural desert community. Sites devoid of vegetation within the wash areas and surrounding steep slopes are susceptible to increased soil erosion. Closing unauthorized routes within the project area will protect existing vegetation. Restoration treatments will incorporate methods such as raking, pitting and mulching. These proven methods not only improve water infiltration and soil conditions, but also facilitate an increase in long-term vegetative cover, limiting immediate and future soil loss from erosion.

b. Water Quality

It is critical to limit surface disturbance upstream in order to improve water quality in the local watershed and the Colorado River Corridor. The Colorado River provides drinking water and agricultural water to downstream communities, and the Los Angeles and Palm Springs areas via the Colorado Aqueduct and the Coachella Valley Canal. As stated above, this project will improve vegetative cover and decrease surface disturbance. This results in decreased soil erosion and runoff, which improves downstream water quality.

c. Special-status Species Habitat

Restoration activities would take place in desert scrub, desert wash and desert pavement communities. OHV activity off authorized routes of travel is destroying and fragmenting habitat for the BLM sensitive Mojave fringed-toed lizard and the federally threatened desert tortoise. Other special status species affected may include the Alverson's foxtail cactus, Desert bighorn sheep, Mountain lion, LeConte's thrasher, Crissal Thrasher, and several sensitive bat species. Illegal OHV activity results in an unknown number of direct takes of individuals of these protected species. It also destroys the vegetation, which provides food water and shelter to these species in this harsh environment. Closing and restoring unauthorized routes will protect and improve critical habitat for these species.

d. Cultural Resources

OHV activity off designated routes creates surface disturbance and destroys cultural resources. The project area has many significant historic and prehistoric sites. Among these sites are the world renowned Blythe Intaglios—giant, prehistoric figures on the earth's surface, best viewed from the sky. Other cultural sites include rock art, mine sites, pottery, trails and campsites. Unfortunately, unchecked OHV use is destroying these sites at an unknown rate. By preventing OHV activity off authorized routes, the project will limit surface disturbance and protect these valuable cultural sites.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The protection of cultural resources such as the Blythe Intaglios (giant, prehistoric figures) is of utmost importance. Evidence and reports from BLM Law Enforcement indicate that OHV tracks have already damaged many archaeological sites within the project area. The project area has many cultural sites such as intaglios, rock art, mine sites, pottery, trails and prehistoric campsites. Surface disturbance from OHV damage off designated routes also fragments and destroys status species habitat for the BLM sensitive Mojave fringed-toed lizard and the federally threatened desert tortoise. Also within the project area are the Big Maria, Rice Valley and Riverside Mountains, which the congress designated as Wilderness Areas. Wilderness areas are closed to all motorized vehicles. Despite attempts by previous hand crews to close OHV entrances and Law Enforcement, OHV use within wilderness boundaries and off designated routes continues to persist. This project will effectively close and restore these disturbances and successfully protect valuable cultural resources.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

a. Law Enforcement
OHV-related Law Enforcement (LE) promotes the safe and enjoyable use of the public lands in ways that minimize impact to natural resources. To ensure success of this project, LE patrol and monitoring restored sites encourages OHV compliance.

b. Site specific project planning
To ensure success, this project has a site-specific strategy developed in coordination with the multi-disciplinary BLM staff as well as local organizations. The restoration ecologist will ensure good communication with cooperatives and field crew when implementing this project. Physical barriers will block entry at limited access points. Before project implementation, restoration sites will undergo site-specific ground surveys and environmental analysis.

c. Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
Heavy equipment and field crews will establish physical barriers here to discourage illegal OHV activity and better delineate the closure area.

d. Use of native plants and materials
This project incorporates the use of native plants materials. For example, vertical and horizontal mulching use native, dead plant materials to disguise OHV damage, stabilize slopes, trap windborne seeds and improve water infiltration. Collection and use of local, native seeds will increase rates of natural regeneration.

e. Incorporation of universally recognized "Best Management Practices"
Prior to project implementation, restoration sites will undergo cultural and biological surveys and site-specific environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). BLM employees and contractors will follow the "Restoration Best Management Practices" as updated in 2007. To prevent any adverse affects to natural resources and ensure project success, BLM biologists will instruct field crews in Best Management Practices. The US Fish and Wildlife Service determined that this project would have a beneficial affect for status species.

f. Educational signage
The development and placement of interpretive signs in association with restoration sites will inform the public of important boundaries, recreational opportunities and natural resources to support the protection of restoration sites and encourage OHV compliance.

g. Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored areas.
No restoration will occur on routes currently open and designated for OHV use. Many OHV routes will remain open within and adjacent to the project area to provide riding opportunities. The field office has over 1,500 miles of OHV designated routes and trail in Riverside County alone.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

The Northern & Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan (NECO) 2002, http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/planning.1.html
Yuma Field Office Resource Management Plan 1987, copy available Yuma FO
Ehrenberg-cibola Recreation Area Management Plan 1994, copy available Yuma FO
Big Maria ACEC 1987, copy available Yuma FO

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Federal lands provide Americans and visitors from around the world special places for recreation, education, reflection, and solace. Public lands managed by the Department of the Interior hosted over 370 million recreation visits in 2005. Ensuring that the federal lands continue to play this important role in American life and culture requires that we maintain visitor facilities and services and enhance visitor opportunities. Such efforts require a source of funding with which we can quickly respond to increases in visitor demand. Recreation fee revenues are a critical source of such supplemental funding that significantly enhance our efforts to address the deferred maintenance backlog and better manage federal lands.

Congress recognized the responsibility of visitors to contribute a greater portion of this funding when it established broad fee authority over forty years age, in 1965, under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCF). Congress subsequently enacted the Fee Demonstration Program in 1996, and the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (Public Law 108-447) (REA) in 2004. The rationale is that those who use specific services and facilities should pay for a larger portion of the costs, rather than require taxpayers who never use the amenities to assume the entire cost.

Combinations of funding sources are:
- **Appropriated funds (recreation and wilderness subactivities)**
- **Fee Site area (campgrounds, regulated open areas, etc...)**
- **Other grant funding programs (NFWF grants Mecca aster restoration, tamarisk eradication)**
- **Support through Friends groups (development of educational programs)**

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM Palm Springs South Coast Field Office Coachella Valley-Windy Point Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-13-R02**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

a. Soils

This project will benefit both short and long-term soil conditions.
Vegetation cover is critical because it retains sandy, windblown soil. By trampling and ripping out vegetation, OHV traffic creates surface disturbance that damages this fragile natural community. Sites devoid of vegetation within the wash and surrounding steep slopes are susceptible to increased soil erosion. Closing this area to illegal OHV traffic will protect existing vegetation. Restoration treatments will incorporate methods such as raking, pitting and mulching. These proven methods not only improve water infiltration and soil conditions, but also facilitate an increase in long-term vegetative cover, limiting immediate and future soil loss from erosion.

b. Water Quality

It is critical to limit surface disturbance upstream in order to improve downstream water quality for communities in and around Palm Springs, CA. As stated above, this project will improve vegetative cover and decrease surface disturbance. This results in decreased soil erosion and runoff, which improves downstream water quality.

c. Special-status Species Habitat

Windy Point is a fragile natural community of plants and animals adapted to the unique sandy, windblown soil. The area serves as critical habitat for a variety of species such as the federally threatened Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard (Uma inornata) and the federally endangered Coachella Valley milk-vetch (Astragalus lentiginosus). Other special status species that have adapted to living in this habitat include the flat-tailed horned lizard, Palm Springs pocket mouse, Coachella Valley Jerusalem cricket and the Coachella Valley giant sand treader cricket. Illegal OHV activity results in an unknown number of direct takes of individuals of these protected species. It also destroys the vegetation, which provides food water and shelter to these species in this harsh environment. Closing and restoring this habitat will protect and improve critical habitat for these species.

d. Cultural Resources

OHV activity off designated routes creates surface disturbance and destroys cultural resources. Since the San Gorgonio pass served as an important trade route, the area is highly valued for both its pre-historic and historic sites associated with trade routes and habitation. By limiting preventing OHV activity in this closed area, the project will limit surface disturbance and protect these important cultural sites.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

On January 31, 2001, the BLM designated the Windy Point area closed to all motorized vehicles for habitat protection for the Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard, Coachella Valley milk-vetch, and other special status species. The Fish and Wildlife service directed the BLM to implement protective measures for Windy Point to protect critical habitat of these species from damage caused by illegal OHV use. Despite the issuance of hundreds of citations by BLM law enforcement, illegal OHV activity in this valuable area continues to persist. PSSC FO management chose this area as a priority for restoration. By installing physical barriers and restoring disturbed habitat, this project will reduce OHV non-compliance and accelerate natural regeneration. This project is critical to not only protect cultural sites, but also defend and improve critical wildlife habitat.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

a. Law Enforcement
OHV-related Law Enforcement (LE) promotes the safe and enjoyable use of the public lands in ways that minimize impact to natural resources. To ensure success of this project, LE patrol and monitor restored sites to encourage OHV compliance.

b. Site specific project planning
To ensure success, this project has a site-specific strategy developed in coordination with the multi-disciplinary BLM staff as well as local organizations. The restoration ecologist will ensure good communication with cooperatives and field crew when implementing this project. Physical barriers will block entry at limited access points. Before project implementation, restoration sites will undergo site-specific ground surveys and environmental analysis.

c. Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
Access to this closed area is limited to two entrance points under the adjacent overpasses of Highway 111 and east from Snow Creek road across private property. Heavy equipment and field crews will establish physical barriers here to discourage illegal OHV activity and better delineate the closure area.

d. Use of native plants and materials
This project incorporates the use of native plants materials. For example, vertical and horizontal mulching use native, dead plant materials to disguise OHV damage, stabilize slopes, trap windborne seeds and improve water infiltration. Natural mulch matting will provide additional cover on severely disturbed hill climbs. Collection and use of local, native seeds will increase rates of natural regeneration.

e. Incorporation of universally recognized "Best Management Practices"
Prior to project implementation, restoration sites will undergo cultural and biological surveys and site-specific environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). BLM employees and contractors will follow the "Best Management Practices" as updated in 2007. To prevent any adverse affects to natural resources and ensure project success, BLM biologists will instruct field crews in Best Management Practices. The US Fish and Wildlife Service determined that this project would have a beneficial affect for status species.

f. Educational signage
The development and placement of interpretive signs in association with restoration sites will inform the public of important boundaries, recreational opportunities and natural resources to support the protection of restoration sites and encourage OHV compliance.

g. Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored areas.
No restoration will occur on routes currently open and designated for OHV use. Opposite the closure area on the west side of Snow Creek Road is an OHV touring route that goes to Fingal Point and continues to Cabazon, CA The Monument has approximately five miles of OHV trail available on

BLM lands including the technically difficult Martinez Canyon. The field office has over 1,500 miles of OHV designated routes and trail in Riverside County alone. Other BLM field offices offers nearly 500,000 acres of OHV open areas within 100 miles of this area.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

The California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment for the Coachella Valley (CDCA-CV) 2002, http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/planning.1.html

The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument (SRSJMNM) Management Plan 2003, http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/planning.1.html

Draft Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Protection Plan (present) http://www.cvmshcp.org/Plan_Documents.htm

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Federal lands provide Americans and visitors from around the world special places for recreation, education, reflection, and solace. Public lands managed by the Department of the Interior hosted over 370 million recreation visits in 2005. Ensuring that the federal lands continue to play this important role in American life and culture requires that we maintain visitor facilities and services and enhance visitor opportunities. Such efforts require a source of funding with which we can quickly respond in increases in visitor demand. Recreation fee revenues are a critical source of such supplemental funding that significantly enhance our efforts to address the deferred maintenance backlog and better manage federal lands.

Congress recognized the responsibility of visitors to contribute a greater portion of this funding when it established broad fee authority over forty years ago, in 1965, under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCF). Congress subsequently enacted the Fee Demonstration Program in 1996, and the Federal Lands Recreational Enhancement Act (Public Law 108-447) (REA) in 2004. The rationale is that those who use specific services and facilities should pay for a larger portion of the costs, rather than require taxpayers who never use the amenities to assume the entire cost.

Combinations of funding sources are:

Appropriated funds from Congress (recreation, wilderness subactivities)
Fee Site area (campgrounds, regulated open area, etc...)
Other grant funding programs (NFWF grants for Mecca aster restoration and tamarisk eradication)
Support through Friends groups (development of educational programs)

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**3**	**The narrative describes a combination of funding sources.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**BLM Ridgecrest Field Office**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**BLM Ridgecrest Field Office Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-01-15-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Designated route plans were implemented in the Ridgecrest Resource Area to comply with the Desert Tortoise (Mojave Population) Recovery Plan (1994). The Western Mojave amendment (WEMO) to the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan encompasses the Ridgecrest Resource Area and incorporates previous designated route networks from the Sikes Management Act (1982) and Rand Mountains / Fremont Valley Management Plan (1993). The process of delisting the federally threatened desert tortoise and preventing the federal listing of the Mohave Ground Squirrel includes reclaiming degraded habitat and reducing habitat fragmentation. The closed trail restoration project will increase native vegetation cover which provides a majority of the desert tortoise nutritional requirements and reduce habitat fragmentation which will allow less-constrained social interactions and increase population viability. Routes were designated closed if: 1) they impacted sensitive species or occupied habitat of sensitive species; 2) an alternative route served the same purpose; 3) they were likely to lead to increased conservation of sensitive species; and 4) the closure would mitigate other cumulative habitat impacts and/or help maintain more/larger contiguous blocks of habitat which might aid in the recovery of sensitive species.

While the primary reasons for designating closed trails and restoring habitat are improving population viability, decreasing habitat fragmentation, and recovery of listed species, many secondary benefits are achieved. Revegetation of denuded habitat leads to stabilization of soils through root formation and dissipated rainsplash. Rainsplash is the effect of precipitation hitting the soil directly, thus putting loose soil into motion and accelerating erosion. Accelerating revegetation and planting "nurse plants" using dead native plant material increases the interception of rain before it reaches the soil, thus reducing the velocity of rain and rainsplash that lead to accelerated erosion. In addition, water dispersal structures (e.g., water bars and check dams) are created on the restoration sites with greater than moderate slopes and where rilling and gullification are occurring. Excessive runoff and surface flows resulting from heavy precipitation microevents channelize on existing roads, increasing water flows and incising soil into rills and gullies. Diverting the flows off of the road disperses the water accumulation and reduces accelerated soil erosion. Decreasing soil erosion through the preceding practices leads to better water quality in desert washes and riparian zones. Soil erosion increases sedimentation in water bodies, leading to decreased oxygen, increased nutrient levels, and turbidity, all of which decrease water quality. Restoring closed OHV trails also decreases the PM-10 (particulate matter) levels in air quality. Cultural resources are protected when restoration sites prevent unauthorized access. While cultural preservation is not the primary reason for restoration, secondary benefits are experienced. Many of the incursions to be restored enter in to biologically diverse and rich canyons. These canyons were historical gathering, hunting, and habitation areas. Many cultural resources are indirectly protected as a result of closed trail restoration.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The designated route closures were necessitated to ensure the existence and protection of numerous special status species. The Western Mojave Desert Off Road Vehicle Designation CDCA Plan Amendment "assessed the environmental effects of adopting the motorized vehicle access network developed through the West Mojave planning process" and addressed specific special status species: "These include the listing of a number of species as either threatened or endangered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), such as the threatened Desert Tortoise (April 2, 1990), the endangered Lane Mountain milk vetch (October 6, 1998), the threatened Inyo California Towhee (August 3, 1987), the endangered Cushenbury milk vetch (August 24, 1994), the endangered Cushenbury buckwheat (August 24, 1994), the endangered Cushenbury oxytheca (August 24, 1994) and the threatened Parish's daisy (August 24, 1994). The western Mohave Desert is also home to the only known population of the California listed (threatened) Mohave ground squirrel." (Decision Record, WMDORVD CDCA Plan Amendment)

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

One of the major components in choosing restoration sites is the potential for success. On sites in high non-compliance areas (e.g., adjacent to an OHV open area), site restoration will be postponed until intensive outreach, education, and law enforcement can supplement the restoration process. In the current project area, law enforcement patrols are made on a daily basis, LE rangers are informed of the restoration areas, and coordinated law enforcement “stings” reduce instances of OHV trespass through increased citations and prosecution (see Law Enforcement Efforts of this project). Site-specific planning is instrumental in the success of closed trail restoration. Dead native plant material is used to disguise the trail and foster revegetation of native species on the site. Each site is unique in vegetation type and cover and restoration techniques replicate the density and flora of the site. On sites that are difficult to restore or where restoration is not sufficient, fencing, bouldering, and other barricading is used to further discourage OHV trespass.

Intensity of user compliance will be monitored for evidence of new vehicle tracks and revegetation occurring after site restoration. Photo-monitoring will be used to evaluate the visual eradication of linear features (i.e., closed trails). Vegetation monitoring will be conducted on a sample of sites in each of the project areas to assess accelerated revegetation and establishment of native plant species. Randomly-chosen or area-specific previously restored closed trails will be monitored for effectiveness and vegetation cover. Each site is given a unique identifier comprised of the polygon, designated route, and incursion number. Monitoring data for each site include: Date of restoration, area restored, restoration techniques (see Project Description of this project) employed on the site, type of incursion (e.g. hillclimb, parallel, crosstrail, etc.), OHV activity prior to restoration, past vandalism, and other past management. These data will be used to compare success rates among the restored sites based on proximity to OHV open areas, recreational value of closed trails (i.e., motivation for illegal trespass), restoration techniques, and supplemental management, such as additional law enforcement, barricading, signing, and fencing.

The California Desert District and Ridgecrest Field Office restoration strategies, planning, implementation, and techniques are among the most innovative for arid lands restoration related to OHV recreation and trail reclamation. The Best Management Practices in this area have been developed and continue to improve during a seven-year partnership with the SCA (Student Conservation Association) in the California desert. The designated open routes in the restoration project area are well-signed and maintained, which assists OHV recreational users in legal riding and aids law enforcement personnel. In addition to well-signed open routes, informational and educational signs are employed in the project area to identify desert restoration projects and the importance of maintaining viable wildlife habitat while providing recreation opportunities. All restoration sites are adjacent to designated open routes which provide recreation opportunities in the restored area.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

California Desert Conservation Area Plan, as amended (1980)
West Mojave CDCA Plan Amendment (2006)

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Future operational costs associated with Ridgecrest restoration projects will be a combination of OHV Trust Funds, BLM operational budgets, and volunteer support provided by the restoration crewmembers and public volunteers.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Angeles National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Angeles National Forest Kagel Canyon Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-01-R02**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.
The project will scarify unauthorized OHV use areas thereby returning soil condition to prior use conditions. This will increase the survivable rate of vegetation planting, therefore, a reduction of soil sedimentation will occur upon completion of the project.
The project will create conditions for rainfall to percolate into the soil and naturally recharge aquifers.
The project will protect sensitive species habitats and cultural resources by preventing unauthorized use off of road 3N32.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

Kagel Mountain area is undeveloped with limited recreational use, therefore it could be potential habitat for various plants and wildlife.
The California Condor utilizes the area for feeding and roosting.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

The Los Angeles Sheriff Dept. and the Forest Service law enforcement personnel have and will continue to patrol the area to discourage unauthorized OHV use. Also, volunteer organizations such as Sylmar Hang Gliders Association, who utilizes the area, will report any unauthorized use and help educate the users for authorized opportunities.
The project uses a site specific plan to address soil compaction, drainage, erosion and all other aspects of the project. The project uses native plants and materials the existing barriers are constructed from native stone and soil all plant s in the project will be from existing native species.
The project uses a site specific plan to address soil compaction, drainage, erosion and all other aspects of the project. The project uses native plants and materials the existing barriers are constructed from native stone and soil all plant s in the project will be from existing native species.
The project incorporates BMP’s from USFS Manuals and Hand books to meet agency requirements which are universally recognized as Best Management Practices by State, Federal and international agencies and normally serve as the basis for other agency BMPs and regulations.
Educational signage will be placed by entrance gates to educated the public on the need for closure to OHVs and the location of existing available routes adjacent to this closed location and other approved areas near by.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

September 2005 Angeles National Forest Land Management Plan, Located on Angeles National Forest Web site, http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/ Copies are available at the District Office, 30800 Bouquet Canyon Rd. Saugus CA 93930 and Supervisor Office,701 N. Santa Anita Rd, Arcadia CA 91006

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

The majority of future operational costs will be thru volunteers (Sylmar Hang Gliders Association, California Trail Users Coalition, Habitat Works of Southern California and Boy Scouts of America. The remaining expenditures will be from the Forest Service allocated recreation funds and watershed appropriated funds.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Angeles National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Angeles National Forest Lake Hughes Plantation Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-01-R03**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Soils the soils in the project area have been greatly impacted through OHV use. The soils are compacted, and eroding. The compaction has prevented normal drainage and has adversely impacted low lying areas. The vegetation also has been impacted. The plantation trees show evidence of dieback from compaction from vehicle driving through and parking in the stands. The area has major erosion feature developing.

The project is designed to address the soil compaction by breaking up compacted soil masses, restore natural drainages, treat existing erosional features and prevent further erosion by implementing best management practices in exposed areas.

Water quality will be improved by lowering siltation from sheet runoff, restoring natural channels, and revegetating channels and open areas with naturally occurring species. Infiltration will also be enhanced by reducing the compacted soil masses which will allow for better sub surface water flows.

The project will have no negative impacts to Cultural Resources. The known cultural resources have been identified and marked for avoidance. The main resource in the area consists of an old road. The project in vision's repair of OHV damage of the road and implementation BMPs to prevent further damage.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The project is for the protection a cultural resource which has been damaged by OHV use. This is a decommissioned section of a dirt road, the remains of the original Lake Hughes Rd.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***

X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law enforcement increased presence in the area is essential for lowering incidents of unauthorized OHV use. Increased random patrols of the area has reduced OHV use in this closed area. These efforts will continue and combined with more educational signing and increased public awareness will protect the project area once completed.

The project uses a site specific plan to address soil compaction, drainage, erosion and all other aspects of the project. The project uses native plants and materials the existing barriers are constructed from native stone and soil all plant s in the project will be from existing native species.

The project incorporates BMP’s from USFS Manuals and Hand books to meet agency requirements which are universally recognized as Best Management Practices by State, Federal and international agencies and normally serve as the basis for other agency BMPs and regulations.

Educational signage will be placed by entrance gates to educated the public on the need for closure to OHVs and the location of existing available routes adjacent to this closed location and other approved areas near by.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

September 2005 Angeles National Forest Land Management Plan, Located on Angeles National Forest Web site, http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/ Copies are available at the District Office, 30800 Bouquet Canyon Rd. Saugus CA 93930 and Supervisor Office,701 N. Santa Anita Rd, Arcadia CA 91006

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

The funding for this project will be a combination of Federal Funds, and Volunteer Support. The maintenance on the site will be volunteer support and federal funds. Other projects for the site, differing vegetation management projects, will enhance and protect this project.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Angeles National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Angeles National Forest Liebre Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-01-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.
The project would seed the areas with native species. This would minimize soil compaction which would allow for natural revegetation. Scarifying the soils would minimize runoff leading to reduced soil erosion and reduce soil sedimentation creating inc reased water quality. The Restoration site would be closed as to not allow any vehicle traffic therefore protecting any cultural resources that may have be within the restoration site. The San Diego horned lizard is a Forest Service sensitive species that occurs throughout the Angeles National Forest. Trail technicians have been trained to identify the lizard and will move any lizards found in the area prior to and during project implementation. In addition, the project will result in an improvement of habitat conditions and restrict disturbance due to vehicular traffic to lizards in the area. As a result, the project will have a beneficial effect to the species and its habitat.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
X	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The forest has had system of designated OHV routes since 1987. The areas to be restored have been identified by the route inventory of 2005 as unauthorized There are no designated routes within the restoration area.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

A site specific plan will be developed to determine areas to be scarified and seeded, types and sizes of signs, and location of barriers. Biologist, Law Enforcement, botanist and archeologist will be consulted throughout the project implementation period. The project will utilize existing natural vegetation, topography and fencing to prevent intrusion into the restored area. Sgns indicating “Closed to Motor Vehicles” and “Restoration Project in Process” will be located along the perimeter of the restoration site to complement the fenced area. The forest botanist will determine the proper native vegetation to be applied to the site. Patrols will be assigned to check the restoration site for any breeches into the site, damaged or removed barriers and insure all signing is in place as installed. Patrol units will include Fire Prevention, Recreation Technicians, OHV Specialists and Law Enforcement. Patrols will occur at least once per week and usually on weekends.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:	
X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

The Angeles National Forest Land Manage Plan- September 2005. The plan can be located at the forest district offices or the forest supervisors office.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

The future operational cost will be mostly the burden of the forest operational budget. Some fuding will come from the OHV Trust Funds in support of the OHV Specialist Law Enforcement patrols. Some support will donated labor from California State Dept. of Correction inmates. Volunteer groups such as the Pacific Crest Trail Association will be utilized for labor and patrols.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Cleveland National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Cleveland National Forest Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-02-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Soils and Water Quality -The project restores damage from OHV trespass and user created trails. User-created trails are generally not sustainable due to the lack of legitimate trail building training in the builders. Trails that do not incorporate features to remove runoff and control erosion cause resource damage and water quality degradation. Complete restoration of the user created trails and OHV caused resource damage in the areas to be restored will protect water quality and stabilize soil in the damaged area.

Special Status Species Habitat – A number of the non-viable trails that will be closed during this restoration project encroach on riparian zones that are known to be habitat of the endangered Arroyo Toad (Bufo Californicus) a listed species (Federal Register 59(241):64589 - 64866.)

Cultural Resources – A number of known archeological sites are located in the proposed restoration areas. The nature and number of known sites in the area indicate that there are very likely many undiscovered Heritage Resource sites hidden in the chaparral and brush. Closing the non-designated trails and working to prevent new ones from being pioneered will protect known and unknown Archeological sites in the proposed restoration areas.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.				
Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

This project would protect significant habitat of the endangered Arroyo Toad (Bufo californicus) by closing non-system, user created routes including and especially those that lead into riparian zones in the restoration area. Long term monitoring and protection of the restored area will ensure continued protection of this listed species.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

The long closure of the Corral Canyon OHV area after the Horse Fire in 2006 caused a surge in user numbers in other nearby areas like Bear Valley and La Posta road. The number of users is also increased each year during the height of summer due to off road enthusiasts who normally travel east on I-8 to the desert, seeking alternative OHV areas due to the seasonable high temperatures in their regular off road areas. When combined with the high volume of cross border migrants traveling cross country from Mexico, and the speed at which this foot traffic creates what OHV users often mistake for legitimate routes, proliferation of non-system routes has become a significant and increasing problem. This is especially true in the southern portion of Bear Valley and in the area of the Long Valley loop. Trails that lead through sensitive riparian areas or on to adjoining private property continue to appear despite the best previous efforts of Forest Service staff. Substantial metal barriers and fencing will be installed to protect sensitive areas in the Bear Valley/Long Valley area and the La Posta area. OHV trespass damage will be restored to protect wildlife habitat areas that include Arroyo Toad (Bufo californicus) habitat. A comprehensive restoration plan to repair and restore resource damage will include:

1. Identify sustainable routes (for possible inclusion in the route inventory process)
2. Close and restore non-viable user created routes
3. Install substantial metal barriers and fencing
4. Patrol and monitor the restored area.
5. Educate and involve users in resource stewardship

Significant participation by the off-road community in the entire process is an integral part of this plan. Users will be actively involved in identifying existing routes that they wish to support for inclusion in the current route designation process. Routes that are found to have minimal or no issues will be brought forward in the route designation process for possible addition to the system (pending environmental work). The user and migrant created trails that trespass on private property or sensitive areas will be eradicated and restored. Installation of barriers and fencing will prevent vehicles from straying on to migrant routes. Rehabilitation of non-viable routes will require some ground disturbance to loosen and aerate soils compacted by vehicle travel. Routes will be disguised using native brush and materials found on site. Natural reseeding and re-growth of native plants is a benefit of using on site material in restoration work. Routine Law enforcement and resource monitoring of the restored area by the Forest Service as part of the long term management strategy for the entire area will ensure return of the impacted landscape to its original condition. Information and educational signing combined with public outreach efforts will be focused on gaining user participation in preventing future route proliferation despite the likelihood of continuing cross border migrant foot traffic in the area.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Cleveland National Forest The Revised Land and Resource Management Plan (Revised 2005)
http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland/projects/forestplan/scfpr/

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

The Restoration projects are designed to stop and restore the area to it`s original condition. Having regular patrols of Fire Prevention, LEOs and Recreation/Resource staff monitor these projects, correcting breaches or violations immediately. Correcting these breaches be funded out of Adventure Pass funds in the Campgrounds and recreation/resource funds in areas outside of developed sites.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Inyo National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Inyo National Forest Mammoth OHV Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-05-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

The project would benefit soil productivity. The project reduces road widths, obliterates and restores illegally created roads, and helps prevent further incursions into non-roaded areas. All of these practices would reduce soil erosion and allow for the process of soil creation to continue. They would also increase soil productivity in the project area. Reducing road widths for legal, existing roads would reduce the area impacted by OHV use. The soils in the restored areas would therefore not be displaced by tires, and would be allowed to collect organic matter that leads to soil creation and soil quality maintenance. Obliterating and restoring illegally created spurs and trails would have the same effect, because it would reduce the area of soil impacted by OHV use.

Water quality would also benefit because some of the roads to be restored or narrowed are near stream corridors. The recent illegal creation of new OHV trails and spurs has led to reduced vegetative cover and therefore increased soil erosion (photos 2-4, photos showing reduced vegetation). This eroded soil can enter adjacent water bodies. With restoration, the soil will be held in place by mulch and eventual increased ground cover. It would then be less likely to erode and less likely to enter water bodies to cause water quality degradation.

One special status species, the pine marten, is known within the project area. The pine marten is neither endangered nor threatened, but is a Forest Service sensitive species. There would be no effects to marten from this project (memo from Inyo National Forest biologist Richard Perloff, 9/4/07). This project would prevent proliferation of existing user-created spurs. This would help reduce the threat to Marten habitat by preventing further vegetation loss.

Cultural resources would benefit from implementation of this project. The recent illegal creation of user-created OHV trails has a direct negative impact on cultural resources. It disturbs the soil, possibly exposing historic and prehistoric artifacts that would otherwise have been protected by a surface layer of soil and vegetation. Exposure of these sites alters their integrity. Most of these trails to be restored are small spurs that will continue to grow over time if left open, leading to further disturbance of cultural resources. Obliteration and restoration of these roads will prevent future use and further cultural resource damage

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
X	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The main purpose of the Mammoth Lakes OHV Restoration Project is to terminate illegal OHV use in areas closed to motor vehicles (See attached maps 1-5). On almost all of the Inyo National Forest, including the area containing this project, OHV use is prohibited off of existing trails.

Forest Order 04-07-01 (available on the Inyo National Forest Website required that all wheeled motorized vehicles remain on existing roads, as mapped in the order http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/inyo/projects/ohvroute5.shtml#steptwo). The purpose is to keep use on existing routes, prohibit cross-country travel with motorized vehicles, and prevent resource damage and the creation of new routes while completing the Route Designation Process. None of the roads preliminarily proposed for obliteration/restoration in this project are mapped as existing roads in Forest Order 04-07-01, and therefore, they are all illegally created roads in an area closed to road creation or OHV use.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law enforcement will be incorporated in the form of increased patrols to the area. As shown in this project’s Form J, Part 2, this project would include up to 20 days of OHV patrol in the project area. If use does occur on the closed roads, or new roads are created, the OHV patrol can obliterate traces of use or improve barriers to ensure that OHV users remain on existing roads.

This project would include completion of an environmental analysis to fulfill NEPA requirements (Project description, pg 3). The proposed project is already site-specific, but as part of NEPA analysis, various specialists would have input on the project, ensuring that potential negative effects are mitigated and that resource protection is maximized. Site-specific planning by an interdisciplinary team of specialists, including recreation specialists, would ensure that the project layout will provide a reasonable and enjoyable transportation system.

As detailed in the project description (page 1), the project would include barricading and obliterating illegally created trails and spurs. While barricades are a good first step to preventing trail use, this project will actually obliterate any sign of the restored trails. This will prevent OHV users from knowing a trail ever existed, and therefore there will be no desire or ability to use the restored trail. This practice also serves to protect bare soil from erosion and introduces additional organic component to the soil, increasing site recovery and project success.

Native seeds will be planted on restored roads (see Project description, page 1, PC/D Form J, Part 2), and native rocks will be used for barricading. Using native seeds will help ensure project success because a portion of project success is returning the restored areas to native species habitat. Using natural rocks for barricades will help the project appear more natural and be more acceptable to users desiring a non-constructed experience. It is also more cost-effective than importing other non-native material.

This project will implement Best Mangement Practices (BMPs) as described in the US Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region BMP Handbook (2000). This handbook is approved by the Water Quality Control Board, and therefore we consider it “universally recognized”. BMPs must be implemented in all Forest Projects (Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment 2004).

As listed in the project PC/D (Form J, part 2) and in the project description (page 1), the project will install educational signs describing the restoration project and the need to stay off of the restored area. This will help ensure project success because OHV users will understand why restoration occurred, and how they can help ensure that the restoration is successful.

A portion of this project includes installing up to 40 carsonite signs (Form J, Part 2, Materials/Supplies) that, in part, will help OHV users follow existing, roads where OHV use is safe, enjoyable, and legal. There are numerous OHV roads that will remain open in this area. This project will help barricade areas to prevent off-road use, and will create a less confusing OHV transportation system near Mammoth Lakes.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

1)Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment. January 2004. Publication Number R5-MB-046. A copy of the plan can be viewed online at http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/snfpa/final-seis/ and http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/snfpa/final-seis/rod/.

2)Inyo National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. 1988. Available in CD format from the Inyo National Forest. (760)873-2400.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

After project implementation, the area will need some continued maintenance and enforcement to ensure its long-term success. Recreation is the major focus of Inyo National Forest management. The Forest will receive regular funding for the indefinite future, and a portion of this funding will go toward OHV patrol in the Mammoth Lakes area, including this project area. Because the Mammoth Lakes area is one of the most heavily used OHV areas on the Forest, it will be a high priority for future Inyo National Forest Operational funding. Further, the Forest regularly completes trail maintenance using its own funds.

Other than regular federal funds, future maintenance and enforcement in the Mammoth Lakes area will be supplemented with volunteer work. Local organizations such as Friends of the Inyo, Advocates for local access, Sneakers, and other conservation and access groups will be involved in projects and enforcement. These volunteers are from established groups working in the region that includes the Inyo National Forest, and their participation is expected indefinitely.

OHV trust funds would likely also be used for some future trail maintenance. While the maintenance would occur without OHV trust funds, the Forest intends to apply for trail maintenance grants in the future. If received, these funds could help supplement regular Forest funds, and could allow for more rapid or more complete trail maintenance.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Inyo National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Inyo National Forest West Olancha Wilderness Road Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-05-R02**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
	Special-Status Species habitat
	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

The project would benefit soil productivity. The project obliterates and restores illegal roads, and helps prevent further incursions into wilderness areas (See Photos 1-5). The project would reduce soil erosion and allow for the process of soil creation to continue. It would also increase soil productivity in the project area. The soils in the restored areas would not be displaced by tires, and would be allowed to collect organic matter that leads to soil creation and soil quality maintenance. Up to 3.2 acres of bare soil area would be restored either directly or by terminating OHV use on the roads.

Water quality would also benefit because two of the roads to be obliterated terminate are located in stream corridors. Eroded soil from the road use is currently able to enter adjacent water bodies. With restoration, the soil will be held in place by mulch and eventual increased ground cover. It would then be less likely to erode and less likely to enter water bodies to cause water quality degradation.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**2**	Division Findings	**2**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
X	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The main purpose of the West Olancha Wilderness Road Restoration project is to terminate illegal OHV activity in the Golden Trout Wilderness. The Golden Trout Wilderness was designated in 1978. Part 4(c) of the Wilderness Act states that temporary and permanent roads, as well as motorized vehicle use, are prohibited in designated Wilderness.

The roads to be barricaded and restored under this project do currently have barricades and signs to prevent their use by OHVs. However, the area is relatively flat with only low-growing vegetation, and OHV users have simply driven around the barricades and continued to use the roads within the Wilderness. This use is illegal as the area has been closed since 1978.

This project would create a more sustainable and effective barrier to OHV use. While barricades would be used to prevent road access, the visible portions of the road would be obliterated, and they would no longer appear to be roads. OHV users would not attempt to drive them, because they would not see a road to drive on. This would alleviate almost all OHV use on these roads, and would reduce OHV incursions into the Golden Trout Wilderness while allowing for resource recovery and restoration.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law enforcement will be incorporated in the form of increased patrols to the area. As shown in this project’s OHV Form J, Part 2, this project would include 10 days of OHV patrol in the project area. If use does occur on the closed roads, or new roads are created, the OHV patrol can obliterate traces of use or improve barriers to ensure that OHV users remain on existing roads.

This restoration project would include completion of an environmental analysis to fulfill NEPA requirements (see project description, page 2). The proposed project is already site-specific, but as part of NEPA analysis, various specialists would have input on the project, ensuring that potential negative effects are mitigated and that the project maximizes resource protection.

As detailed in the project description (page 1), the project would include barricading and obliterating illegal OHV roads. While barricades are a good first step to preventing trail use, this project will help ensure success by actually obliterating any sign of the restored trails. This will prevent OHV users from being able to tell that the trail ever existed, and therefore there will be no desire or ability to use the restored trail.

Native materials will be used for blockading and disguising the restored roads. Using natural rocks for barricades will help the project appear more natural and be more acceptable to users desiring a non-constructed experience. It is also more cost-effective than importing other non-native material. Dead bushes, branches, and duff will be placed on the restored road to disguise it, causing it to blend in with the surrounding area. This is an integral part of project design, as it will prevent OHV users from even knowing a road used to exist, and reduce the potential for the restored roads’ use.

As listed in the project PC/D (Form J, part 2) and in the project description, educational signs describing the need to stay off of the restored area for project success will be included (page 1). This will help ensure project success because OHV users will understand why restoration occurred, and how they can help ensure that the restoration is successful.

A portion of this project includes installing up to 10 carsonite signs (Form J, Part 2, Materials/Supplies) that, in part, will help OHV users follow existing, well maintained roads where OHV use is safe, enjoyable, and legal. There are numerous OHV roads that will remain open in this area. This project will help barricade areas to prevent use off of existing roads, and will create a less confusing OHV transportation system near the Olancha area.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

1) Golden Trout Wilderness Management Plan. 1982. Available in hard copy format from the Inyo National Forest (760)873-2400.

2) Wilderness Act. (Public Law 88-577), especially part 4(c). Available for viewing on the website: http://www.wilderness.net/index.cfm?fuse=NWPS&sec=legisAct&error=404

3) Inyo National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. 1988. Available in CD format from the Inyo National Forest. (760)873-2400.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

After project implementation, the area will need some minimal continued maintenance and enforcement to ensure its long-term success. It is not expected that operational costs will be high, because road disguising and obliteration has been mostly successful on the Inyo National Forest, as it almost completely eliminates future use by disguising the road so OHV users have no desire to drive in the closed area.

Recreation is the major focus of Inyo National Forest management. The Forest will receive regular funding for the indefinite future, and a portion of this funding will go toward OHV patrol in the Olancha area, including this project area. Further, the Forest regularly completes trail maintenance using its own funds.

Other than regular federal funds, future maintenance and enforcement in the Olancha area will be supplemented with volunteer work. Local organizations such as Friends of the Inyo, Advocates for local access, Sneakers, and other conservation and access groups will be involved in projects and enforcement. These volunteers are from established groups working in the region that includes the Inyo National Forest, and their participation is expected indefinitely.

OHV trust funds would likely also be used for some future OHV patrols. While the patrol would occur without OHV trust funds, the Forest intends to apply for Law enforcement grants in the future. If received, these funds could help supplement regular Forest funds, and could allow for more frequent OHV patrols to ensure that the project is sustainable and successful.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Lassen National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Lassen National Forest Pegleg Mountain - County Road A-21, Butte Creek Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-08-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Soils and Water Quality - The following routes are located within 100 feet of Butte Creek: UCC321, UCC367, and UCC369. These routes are all chronic sources of sediment to the creek. Decommissioning them will eliminate a chronic source of sediment to Butte Creek, thereby improving water quality.

Within the Pegleg project area, the following routes have reduced soil porosity and have removed protective vegetative ground cover that reduces erosion from rain splash: 30N7C, 30N60A, 30N44, ULA430, ULA431, ULA451, and unmapped road off of 30N51. Decommissioning these routes will increase soil porosity and allow protective vegetation to recover.

Cultural Resources - Within the Pegleg project area, the project will limit vehicular traffic in the vicinity of sections of the historic Lassen Emigrant Trail, a California historic trail. Reducing the amount of vehicle traffic will help preserve the trail and artifacts associated with the emigration period.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

Protect cultural site - The Pegleg road decommissioning project will eliminate access to the Lassen Emigrant Trail. The Lassen Emigrant Trail will benefit from the project, as potential damage from OHV use will be limited.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law Enforcement - On July 12, 2007 Laurie Tippin, Forest Supervisor, issued a Temporary Forest Order restricting wheeled motorized vehicles to designated roads and trails to protect the natural resources within Lassen National Forest. This is the backbone to the forest’s law enforcement efforts. If a Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) or a Forest Protection Officer (FPO) encounters illegal vehicle use in the project area, the visitor will be cited for a violation of this order. An OHV law enforcement grant has provided funding to sign the main entry points to educate the public.

Site Specific Project Planning - A transportation plan was completed for the project areas and incorporated into the project NEPA documents. The NEPA Decisions for these projects identified the roads in this project proposal for decommissioning.

Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices - To prevent unauthorized vehicle use along decommissioned routes, boulders will be strategically placed to provide barriers on 30N7C, 30N60A, 30N44, ULA430, ULA431, ULA451, and the unmapped road off 30N51 in Pegleg Project Area; and UCC321, UCC367, and UCC369 in the Butte Creek project area.

Use of native plants and materials - Native seed mixes from the Lassen National Forest will be used for re-vegetating the project sites. An upland eastside mix will be used for the Pegleg project area and a westside mix for the Butte Creek area. Certified weed-free straw mulch will be used for erosion control and for moisture retention, while the seeds germinate. Boulders will be used as barriers.

Incorporation of universally recognized Best Management Practices - To ensure road decommissioning is successfull, we will evaluate the entire project for success utilizing the protocol for road decommissioning (E10) found in the Best Management Practices Evaluation Program (BMPEP) for national forests in California. All earth work will occur when the soil is dry and will cease during precipitation events. Prior to active earthwork, sediment fences will be installed between UCC321 and Butte Creek to prevent sediment from reaching the creek. To stabilize recently disturbed ground throughout both project areas, straw will be applied at a rate of 20 bales per mile and re-vegetated with a native seed mix at a rate of 12 lb/acre.

Educational Signing - Within the Butte Creek project area, Carsonite posts will be installed along UCC321. Stickers placed on the posts will display why the area has been closed (for soil and watershed protection). Within the Pegleg project area, Carsonite signs with the same stickers will be placed in strategic locations.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

This project is consistent with the 1993 Lassen National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as amended.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Applicant's operational budget - Routine patrols by Law Enforcement Officers and Forest Protection Officers will monitor the areas for unauthorized use. A watershed specialist will monitor the rehabilitation component to assess if vegetation has recovered for two years. Additional patrols may be necessary during holidays, weekend and high use seasons (fishing and hunting season), the Forest Service will fund these patrols. Any repairs or needed maintenance will be funded with Forest Service watershed dollars.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Lassen National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Lassen National Forest Pine Creek Estuary Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-08-R02**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Decommissioning these roads would reduce adverse impacts to soils, water quality, aquatic habitat and cultural resources by closing un-managed OHV vehicle travel in the riparian area adjacent to Pine Creek

Soils -
The roads to be closed are not on steep slopes. The project area lies within soil map unit Lithic Haploxerolls-Rouen family-Rock outcrop association, 0 to 15 percent slopes. Rutting has been observed on UNE773 and UBB048; and gully erosion on the hill slope below UNE773. The project will have a positive effect on soils within the road beds and on adjacent slopes by reducing chronic sources of erosion.

Water Quality -
The project will have a positive effect on the water quality of Pine Creek. The project will directly decommission three miles of user-created routes, which are active sources of sediment to Pine Creek. Eliminating these sources will improve water quality and the habitat of Eagle Lake Trout, a Forest Service Species of Concern

Special-status species habitat- Wetlands are ecologically productive habitat that support a rich variety of both plant and animal life. Several species known to occur on or in the vicinity of the study area are accorded "Special Status" because of their recognized rarity or vulnerability to various causes of habitat loss, population decline, or because they are isolated or endemic to this particular area.

Pallid bat (CSC/S/FSC) - Known Occurrence. The study area contains at least one known night roost at the bridge over Pine Creek; the Pallid bat is a Forest Service Sensitive Species. Bald eagle (FT/CE/FSC) - Eight active breeding pairs are know from the west shore of Eagle lake and two are located within the study area(USFS, 1999b) The bald eagle is a Forest Service Sensitive Species. Osprey (CSC) - This species nests along the western shore of Eagle Lake and is known to occur within the study area (CNDDB, 1998). Ospreys are managed by the USFS as an indicator species. Eagle lake tui chub (CSC/S) - This tui chub is endemic to Eagle lake. Presently the most abundant fish in Eagle Lake. Eagle Lake rainbow trout (Endemic/S) - This trout is endemic to Eagle Lake. They are found throughout the lake except in late summer when they concentrate in the deeper, cooler water of the basin. Pine Creek is the primary spawning grounds for the Eagle Lake rainbow trout. Forest Service sensitive species. (CSC = California Species of Special Concern FSC = Federal Species of Concern S = Forest Region 5 sensitive)

Cultural Resources - A total of eight historic (prehistoric archaeological and historic sites) have been identified within or immediately adjacent to the project area. There were three principal aboriginal groups that visited Eagle Lake: Mountain Maidu, Atsugewi and Northern Paiute. Economic life for these people revolved around hunting, fishing and collecting plant foods within the Pine Creek Estuary. User-created routes are dispersed throughout the Estuary with new routes being created on a weekly basis. OHV travel is adversely impacting the integrity of isolated cultural sites. Decommissioning and restoring these roads will prevent physical destruction, damage or alteration of the historic properties.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The objective of Pine Creek Restoration project is to eliminate uncontrolled OHV use on a system of user-created roads that runs along the shoreline and meadow above the Pine Creek Estuary. Currently, this uncontrolled vehicle access has affected sensitive wildlife habitat including, but not limited to, riparian lands, wetlands, bays, estuaries, marshes and habitat for both California and Federal Species of Special Concern. Protecting the habitat of these species is important because they are susceptible to disturbance.

Archaeological sites within the project area include deposits in the soil as well as artifact scatters and features on the surface. Adverse effects from uncontrolled OHV use may include, but are not limited to the following:

- **Physical destruction, damage, or alteration of all or part of the historic properties;**
- **And introduction of visual, audible, or atmospheric elements that are out of character with the properties and which alter its setting.**

By restoring the user-created roads that lead to the mouth of the Pine Creek Estuary, the Forest Service will eliminate any further impacts to cultural sites that are included within the project area.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law Enforcement - On July 12, 2007, Laurie Tippin, our Forest Supervisor, signed a Temporary Forest Order restricting motorized vehicles to protect the natural resources within Lassen National Forest. This is the backbone to our enforcement efforts. If a LEO or a Forest Protectino Officer sees ellegal vehicle use within the estuary, the visitor will be cited for a violation of this order.

Site Specific Project Planning - A Reccord of Decision was signed by Forest Supervisor Edward C. Cole on February 23, 2004, implementing the Spalding Land Exchange Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements. Additional site sruvey and engineering designs were completed in August of 2006.

Construction of barriers and use of native plants and materials - As discussed in the project description, this project will make use of barriers made from natural materials (boulders). Native seen will be used to re-vegetate the site after road decommissioning.

Incorporation of BMP`s - In addition the implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) during project activities, the Road Decommissioning BMP evaluation protocol E10 found in the USDA Forest Service Region 5 Best Management Practice Evaluation Program (BMPEP) will be used to conduct post project evaluations.

Educational Signing - An OHV Enforcement Grant and Forest Service matching funds will provide funding to sign the main entry points to educate the public. Future educational plans include: defining a non-motorized trail system with the decommissioned roads providing the tread surface, and encouraging hiking, birding, and fishing opportunities. An interpretive trail that continues along Pine Creek from the Pine Creek fish trap to the mouth of Pine Creek wil guide visitors, school children and the community to learn about the estuary ecology.

Incorporation of Alternate OHV routes - The associated road development project will upgrade and designate the existing vehicle access on the south side of the Pine Creek Estuary. This work will include providing a gravel surface road equipped with 3 pull outs or parking lanes to provide access to Pine Creek. An eight vehicle parking area/turnaround will be constructed at the terminus of the road. This part of the project will be accomplished with matching funds within the grant funding period.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

This project is consistent with the 1993 Lassen National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as amended.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Weekly patrols of the Pine Creek Estuary are already in place and will continue as part of our operating plan for this area. Initially, education and enforcement presence will be important to gain community understanding for the project. Law Enforcement Officers, Forest Protection Officers and the District Recreation Specialist will monitor the rehabilitation component. Concentrated efforts will be necessary during holidays, weekends and high use seasons (fishing and hunting season). Forest Service appropriated program dollars will be used to fund these efforts.

In addition, some members of the Spalding community have been instrumental in maintaining Carsonite signs that block the user-created roads. Currently two members of the community patrol the estuary and re-install signs that have been pulled out by OHV users. This dedicated work force has led to good compliance during the 2006-2007 season prior to the restoration project.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Mendocino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Mendocino National Forest Gilmore Ridge Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-10-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Successful restoration measures designed to correct OHV impacts have remained a key objective of the Mendocino National Forest's (MNF) OHV program for over 20 years (see photos). Numerous OHV restoration projects have been photo-documented and monitored since 1982. As a result of the technology and methods learned over the years, it is expected that the Gilmore Ridge restoration projects proposed in this application will achieve and sustain the intended desired results of the prescribed treatments. These restoration projects are interrelated and consistent with the other OHV grant applications being submitted during this cycle. Funding these proposed projects will ensure that Mendocino NF OHV management maintains a comprehensive program that provides a balance between responsible OHV opportunities and sound environmental protection and stewardship.

A primary goal of the MNF's OHV restoration program is to provide a systematic process for the detection of direct or indirect effects to natural or cultural resource values resulting from OHV activity. A comprehensive monitoring program has been designed to identify and correct motorized impacts as they are detected. Any findings of adverse effects to natural or cultural resources caused by OHV use are documented and prioritized for a prescribed action to correct the problem. Corrective actions are designed to maintain and restore biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat and meet State and Federal standards for soil conservation, water quality objectives and cultural resource protection pursuant to, and in compliance with requirements contained in the OHV Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Regulations and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 261.15.

Soils – Soil loss above existing background will be effectively eliminated in the Gilmore Ridge area by mechanically obliterating unclassified illegal OHV routes and restoring impacted landforms. These actions will be followed by mulching and permanently closing the treated areas to prevent any future illegal unclassified routes from reoccurring.

Water quality – Water quality in the Gilmore Ridge area will be improved by implementing the prescribed actions designed to prevent further soil loss as described in the "soils" response above and by employing Best Management Practices (BMPs) cited in #4 below. Treatments will prevent erosion thereby protecting water quality and downstream fishery habitat in the Stony Creek Watershed.

Special-status species habitat – Gilmore Ridge restoration projects are located within designated "Management Area #4. This Management Areas (MA) is described in the MNF's Land and Resource Management Plan (L&MRP) which is on file with the OHMVR Division. This area provides habitat for special-status species including black tail deer, bald eagle, California thrasher, northern spotted owl and goshawk. Peregrine falcons currently use a reconstructed rock ledge near Goat Rock. The sensitive plant species Antirrhinum subcordatum, Epilobium nivium, and Hesperolinon drymarioides have been recorded within this MA. This area may contain potential habitat for Brodiaea coronaria ssp. Rosea, Eriastrum brandegeae and Silene camapanulata ssp. Campanulara. Little Stony Creek contains a thriving assemblage of native warmwater fishes and is very important habitat for amphibians and reptiles.

Cultural resources – The Gilmore Ridge restoration project areas have been surveyed for cultural resources. No prehistoric or historic cultural resources were identified within the area proposed for restoration treatment.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**3**	**The narrative for cultural resources conflicts with the check box.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

Restoration projects in the Gilmore Ridge area are located in Management Area #4 as described in the MNF L&RMP. This MA provides habitat for the special-status species listed in #2 above. Protection of this habitat is the primary purpose of this project. Current management direction restricts OHV use to designated routes only, minimizing the potential for direct or indirect impacts to these species and their habitats. The Gilmore Ridge restoration projects will effectively eliminate illegal OHV trail proliferation and restore habitat to a natural condition.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law Enforcement - LE patrols are an integral part of the Mendocino National Forest OHV program, ensuring that restoration investments result in success. LE Funding assistance at the requested level should allow the Forest to effectively carryout LE activities that will address all issues related to OHV use including monitoring and protecting restored areas. LE associated with the Gilmore Ridge restoration activities will stress protective barrier and sign maintenance to prevent resource damage. Patrols in this area should average 1-2 per week during the fall-spring OHV season.

Site specific planning - The site specific NEPA planning completed for the Gilmore Ridge restoration projects will ensure success. The effectiveness of the treatments will be measured by how well the actions restore natural land contours, sustain biodiversity, improve/protect wildlife habitat and achieve soil loss and water quality objectives. Following implementation, treated areas will be closely monitored to ensure that the restored sites remain closed to motorized use and progress toward the desired condition.

Traffic control devices -The Forest plans to use innovative barriers or fences as needed to restrict motorized impacts from reoccurring on restored sites. Wherever possible, natural features such as logs, rocks and brush will be used to accomplish this protection while reducing visual impacts and costs. It is anticipated that a minimum of 200’ of man-made barriers will be installed due to unavailability of natural barrier material onsite.

Native plants and materials - This project will use native vegetation regeneration to help camouflage and conceal previous use and deter future use. Native grass seed will be collected from a local source and stored until sowing conditions are optimal. Mulch materials such as geo-jute and certified weed-free rice straw will be used to ensure an ideal seed bed for these native grasses.

BMPs - In addition to the monitoring process associated with current OHMVR Regulations, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP) will be implemented to protect and enhance the viability of species in areas of OHV activity. This is accomplished using Forest Service BMPs. These practices are designed to provide site-specific methods and techniques to protect water quality. BMPs incorporated in these projects include:
1) BMP 4-7: Water Quality monitoring of OHV Use according to a developed plan
2) BMP 5-4: Revegetation of surface disturbed areas
3) BMP 7-7: Management by closure to use

Educational signage - Once this area has been restored, signs will be posted to help educate the public about why an area has been closed. Examples of signs being used to interpret restoration projects include “This Area Closed for Rehabilitation, Please Use Other Trails” (photos).

Alternative OHV routes - Numerous legal OHV route opportunities exist in the Gilmore Ridge area. These designated routes provide reasonable alternatives for connectivity around the closed and restored areas proposed in this project.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Mendocino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, 1995 – available in CD format from the Forest Supervisor's Office in Willows, CA, or online at: http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/publications/fp/

Annual Monitoring Program Report Plan – August 2006. On file OHMVR Division.

Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan/Habitat Management Plan – July 2007. Submitted with 2005-2006 grant request on file with OHMVR Division. Updated 2007 - Form F in this grant request.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Combination - Volunteer and other contributed assistance is expected to play a significant role in the implementation and future operational costs associated with the Gilmore Ridge Restoration projects. Volunteer agreements are already established with the Blue Ribbon Coalition, numerous clubs and organizations representing OHV interests. Long-time partners, Valley View and Salt Creek State Conservation Camps and the Fouts Springs Youth Detention Facility are available and always willing to contribute low cost labor to assist OHV management projects. These camps have proved instrumental in past restoration activities that have included the application of mulch, fertilizer and erosion control blankets to restored areas. In addition, the camps are experienced in the installation and maintenance of protective barriers, stiles, fencing and signage that are essential to the protection of restoration investments.

At this time we would not anticipate needing to request future OHV Trust funding for maintenance of this project once implemented except in the event of a major failure of loss of barrier structures requiring a major expenditure beyond agency capabilities. Each fiscal year the Forest budget receives appropriated watershed monitoring funding. These funds will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of this restoration project after implementation. Any repair or maintenance needs detected in out-years will be effectively treated using Forest Service allocated watershed improvement funds.

Increased force-account LE support is expected to play a larger role in post-project monitoring for the Miner Ridge projects. This will be accomplished with the help of two additional Law enforcement Officers being added to the workforce in FY 2006, to augment the existing MNF program. In 2006, the MNF led the nation in the number of detected and seized drug trafficking organization (DTO) marijuana operations. For this reason, the LE staff on the Forest is being increased with Federal assistance to help reduce DTO occurrences, allowing more time for LE to concentrate on other issues including OHV enforcement (Domestic Security DTO Funding Act 2007).

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Mendocino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Mendocino National Forest Miner Ridge Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-10-R02**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Successful restoration measures to correct OHV impacts have remained a key objective of the Mendocino National Forest's (MNF) OHV program for over 20 years. Numerous OHV restoration projects have been photo-documented and monitored since 1982 (see photos). As a result of the technology and methods learned over the years, it is expected that the Miner Ridge trail proliferation restoration project proposed in this application will achieve and sustain the desired results from the prescribed treatments. This restoration project is interrelated and consistent with the other OHV grant applications being submitted during this cycle. Funding this proposed project will ensure that Mendocino NF OHV management maintains a program providing a balance between responsible OHV opportunities and sound environmental protection and stewardship.

A primary goal of the MNF's OHV restoration program is to provide a systematic process for the detection of direct or indirect effects to natural or cultural resource values resulting from OHV activity. A comprehensive monitoring program has been designed to identify and correct motorized impacts as they are detected. Any findings of adverse effects to natural or cultural resources caused by OHV use are documented and prioritized for a prescribed action to correct the problem. Corrective actions are designed to maintain and restore biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat and meet State and Federal standards for soil conservation, water quality objectives and cultural resource protection pursuant to, and in compliance with requirements contained in the OHV Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Regulations and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 261.15.

Soils – Soil loss above existing background will be effectively eliminated in the Miner Ridge area by mechanically obliterating unclassified illegal OHV routes and restoring impacted landforms. These actions will be followed by mulching and permanently closing the treated areas to prevent any future illegal unclassified routes from reoccurring.

Water quality – Water quality in the Miner Ridge area will be improved by implementing the prescribed actions designed to prevent further soil loss as described in the "soils" response above and by employing Best Management Practices (BMPs) cited in #4 below. Treatments will prevent erosion thereby protecting water quality and downstream fishery habitat in the Stony Creek Watershed.

Special-status species habitat – Miner Ridge restoration projects are located within designated "Management Areas" #3 and #4. These Management Areas (MAs) are described in the MNF's Land and Resource Management Plan (L&MRP) which is on file with the OHMVR Division. These areas provide habitat for special-status species including black tail deer, bald eagle, California thrasher, northern spotted owl and goshawk. A potential peregrine falcon nest site is also located within this zone. A small parcel of critical habitat for the northern spotted owl is located in the western portion of management area #3. The sensitive plant species Antirrhinum subcordatum, Epilobium nivium, Eriastrum brandegeae and Hesperolinon drymarioides have been recorded within these MAs.

Cultural resources – The Miner Ridge restoration project areas have been surveyed for cultural resources. No prehistoric or historic cultural resources were identified within the area proposed for restoration treatment.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**3**	**The narrative for cultural resources contradicts the box checked.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

Restoration projects in the Miner Ridge area are located in Management Area #3 and #4 as described in the MNF L&RMP. These management areas provide habitat for special-status species as listed in #2 above. Protection of this habitat for special status species is the primary purpose of this project. Current management direction restricts OHV use to designated routes only, minimizing the potential for direct or indirect impacts to these species and their habitats. The Miner Ridge restoration projects will effectively eliminate illegal OHV trail proliferation and restore habitat to a natural condition.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law Enforcement - LE patrols are an integral part of the Mendocino National Forest OHV program, ensuring that restoration investments result in success. LE funding assistance at requested levels should allow the Forest to effectively carryout LE activities that will address all issues related to OHV use including monitoring and protecting restored areas. LE activities associated with the Miner Ridge restoration project will stress protective barrier and sign maintenance monitoring designed to prevent any reoccurrence of resource damage from motorized impacts. Patrols in this area should average 2-3 per week during the fall-spring OHV season.

Site specific planning - The site specific NEPA planning for the Miner Ridge restoration projects will ensure success. The effectiveness of the treatments will be measured by how well the actions restore natural land contours, sustain biodiversity, improve/protect wildlife habitat and achieve soil loss and water quality objectives. Following implementation, treated areas will be monitored to ensure that the restored sites remain closed and progress toward the desired condition.

Traffic control devices - Barriers will be used as needed to restrict motorized impacts from reoccurring on the restored sites. Wherever possible, natural features such as logs, rocks and brush are used to accomplish this protection. Using these on-site natural features reduces visual impacts and costs associated with closing the area. Synthetic products such as no-dig barrier systems will be installed where natural materials are unavailable on-site.
Native plants and materials -This project will include mechanical soil scarification using rippers to loosen compacted soil to prepare a seedbed. This action will be followed by mulching with on-site duff and other forest litter to provide erosion control and assist in the natural regeneration of the mixed-conifer vegetation in the areas being treated. Native vegetation will help camouflage and conceal previous use and deter future use. Mulch materials such as geo-jute and certified weed-free rice straw will be used to ensure an ideal seed bed. Annual fertilization will be applied to encourage a rapid return of natural vegetation. By restoring a natural appearance to the treated areas, future motorized impacts will be discouraged.

BMPs - In addition to the monitoring associated with current OHMVR Regulations, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP) will be implemented to protect and enhance the viability of species in areas of OHV activity. This is accomplished using Forest Service Best Management Practices as follows:
1)BMP 2.3: Timing of Construction Activities
2) BMP 4-7: Water Quality monitoring of OHV Use
3) BMP 5-4: Revegetation of surface disturbed areas
4) BMP 7-7: Management by closure

Educational signage - Once the Miner Ridge restoration projects are implemented, signs will be strategically posted to educate the public about why the areas have been closed and restored. Examples of signs used to interpret restoration projects include “This Area Closed for Rehabilitation, Please Use Other Trails” (photos).

Alternate routes - Numerous legal OHV route opportunities exist in the Miner Ridge area. These designated routes provide reasonable alternatives for connectivity around the closed and restored areas proposed in this project.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Mendocino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, 1995 – available in CD format from the Forest Supervisor's Office in Willows, CA, or online at: http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/publications/fp/

Annual Monitoring Program Report Plan – August 2006. On file OHMVR Division.

Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan/Habitat Management Plan – July 2007. Submitted with 2005-2006 grant request on file with OHMVR Division. Updated 2007 - Form F in this grant request.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Combination - Volunteer and other contributed assistance will play a significant role in the implementation and future operational costs associated with the Miner Ridge Restoration projects. Volunteer agreements are already established with the Blue Ribbon Coalition, numerous clubs and organizations representing OHV interests. Long-time partners, Valley View and Salt Creek State Conservation Camps and the Fouts Springs Youth Detention Facility are available and always willing to contribute low cost labor to assist OHV management projects. These camps have proved instrumental in past restoration activities that have included the application of mulch, fertilizer and erosion control blankets to restored areas. In addition, the camps are experienced in the installation and maintenance of protective barriers, stiles, fencing and signage that are essential to the protection of restoration investments.

At this time we would not anticipate needing to request future OHV Trust funding for maintenance of this project once implemented except in the event of a major failure of loss of barrier structures requiring a major expenditure beyond agency capabilities. Each fiscal year the Forest budget receives appropriated watershed monitoring funding. These funds will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of this restoration project after implementation. Any repair or maintenance needs detected in out-years will be effectively treated using Forest Service allocated watershed improvement funds.

Increased force-account LE support is expected to play a larger role in post-project monitoring for the Miner Ridge projects. This will be accomplished with the help of two additional Law enforcement Officers being added to the workforce in FY 2006, to augment the existing MNF program. In 2006, the MNF led the nation in the number of detected and seized drug trafficking organization (DTO) marijuana operations. For this reason, the LE staff on the Forest is being increased with Federal assistance to help reduce DTO occurrences, allowing more time for LE to concentrate on other issues including OHV enforcement (Domestic Security DTO Funding Act 2007).

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Mendocino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Mendocino National Forest Potato Hill Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-10-R03**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Successful restoration measures to correct OHV impacts have remained a key objective of the Mendocino National Forest's (MNF) OHV program for over 20 years. Numerous OHV restoration projects have been photo-documented and monitored since 1982 (see photos). As a result of the technology and methods learned over the years, it is expected that the Potato Hill restoration project proposed in this application will achieve and sustain the desired results of the prescribed treatments. This restoration project is interrelated and consistent with the other OHV grant applications being submitted during this cycle. Funding this proposed project will ensure that Mendocino NF OHV management maintains a program providing a balance between responsible OHV opportunities and sound environmental protection and stewardship.

A primary goal of the MNF's OHV restoration program is to provide a systematic process for the detection of direct or indirect effects to natural or cultural resource values resulting from OHV activity. A comprehensive monitoring program has been designed to identify and correct motorized impacts as they are detected. Any findings of adverse effects to natural or cultural resources caused by OHV use are documented and prioritized for a prescribed action to correct the problem. Corrective actions are designed to maintain and restore biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat and meet State and Federal standards for soil conservation, water quality objectives and cultural resource protection pursuant to, and in compliance with requirements contained in the OHV Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Regulations and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 261.15.

Soils – Soil loss above existing background will be effectively eliminated in the potato Hill area by mechanically obliterating unclassified illegal routes and restoring impacted landforms. These actions will be followed by mulching and permanently closing the treated areas to prevent any future illegal unclassified routes from reoccurring. Soils in this area are moderately to highly erodible.

Water quality – Water quality will be improved by actions designed to prevent further soil loss as described in "soils" above.

Special-status species habitat - This restoration project is located in Management Area (MA) #21 "Blue Slides" as designated in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP). This MA is entirely within Late Successional Reserve RC313, largely critical habitat for the "threatened and endangered" listed northern spotted Owl. It contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting habitat for northern NSO and goshawk. The eastern portion, encompassing this project area, also contains foraging habitat for bald eagle and osprey. The sensitive plant species Epilobium nivium, is known to occur in this area. This project is consistent with current management direction for OHV use on designated routes only.

Cultural resources – The area has been surveyed for cultural resources and none are present within the area proposed for restoration treatment.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

This restoration project is located entirely within Management Area #21 as described in the MNF L&RMP. This management area provides habitat for the special-status species listed in #2 above. Protection of this habitat for special status species is the primary purpose of this project. Current management direction restricts OHV use to designated routes only, minimizing the potential for direct or indirect impacts to these species and their habitats. The Potato Hill restoration project will effectively eliminate illegal OHV trail proliferation and restore habitat to a natural condition.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law Enforcement - LE patrols are an integral part of the Mendocino National Forest OHV program, ensuring that restoration investments result in success. LE Funding assistance at the requested level should allow the Forest to effectively carryout LE activities that will address all issues related to OHV use including monitoring and protecting restored areas. LE associated with restoration activities will stress protective barrier and sign maintenance to prevent resource damage. Comprehensive OHV guide-maps identify all legal designated routes and explain restrictions and seasonal closures related to wildlife concerns, soft roadbeds and excessive precipitation.

Site specific planning - Success criteria developed through the NEPA planning process for this project will be measured by the effectiveness of specific resource treatments and protection measures designed to maintain and restore the natural contours of the land, sustain biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat, provide wildlife habitat protection and achieve water quality objectives. After achieving the desired condition, the treated area will be closely monitored to ensure that the site remains closed to motorized use.

Traffic control devices -The Forest will use barriers and fences as needed to restrict motorized impacts from reoccurring on restored sites. Wherever possible, natural features such as logs, rocks and brush will be used to accomplish this protection while reducing visual impacts and costs. More permanent features, such as treated peeler cores or railroad-tie barriers will be installed where natural materials are unavailable on site.

Native plants and materials - After scarification and soil blending to restore OHV impacted areas, mulch materials such as geo-jute and certified weed-free rice straw will be applied to treated areas to provide a seed bed to promote natural regeneration of area vegetation. The prescribed treatment also includes planting vegetation screens to conceal previous OHV use and deter future use from reoccurring. The Forest plans to supplement natural regeneration by planting larger containerized native trees propagated from seed collected from similar growing sites in or near the Forest or purchased from local nurseries specializing in native plants such as the California Conservation Corps in Yountville.

BMPs - In addition to the monitoring process associated with current OHMVR Regulations, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP) will be implemented to protect and enhance the viability of species in areas of OHV activity. This is accomplished using Forest Service BMPs as follows:
1)BMP 2.3: Timing of Construction Activities
2) BMP 4-7: Water Quality monitoring of OHV Use according to a developed plan
3) BMP 5-4: Revegetation of surface disturbed areas
4) BMP 7-7: Management by closure to use

Educational signage - Once this area has been restored, signs will be posted as needed to help educate the public about why the area has been closed. Examples of signs being used to interpret restoration projects include “This Area Closed for Rehabilitation, Please Use Other Trails (photos)”

Alternative OHV routes - Numerous legal OHV route opportunities exist in the Potato Hill area. These designated routes provide reasonable alternatives for connectivity around the closed and restored areas proposed in this project.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Mendocino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, 1995 – available in CD format from the Forest Supervisor's Office in Willows, CA, or online at: http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/publications/fp/

Annual Monitoring Program Report Plan – August 2006. On file OHMVR Division.

Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan/Habitat Management Plan – July 2007. Submitted with 2005-2006 grant request on file with OHMVR Division. Updated 2007 - Form F in this grant request.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Volunteer and other contributed assistance is planned to play a significant role in the implementation and future operational costs associated with the Gilmore Ridge Restoration projects. Volunteer agreements have been established with the Blue Ribbon Coalition, numerous clubs and organizations representing OHV interests. Long-time partners, Valley View and Salt Creek State Conservation Camps and the Fouts Springs Youth Detention Facility are available and always willing to contribute low cost labor to assist OHV management projects. These camps have proved instrumental in past restoration activities that have included the application of mulch, fertilizer and erosion control blankets to restored areas. In addition, the camps are experienced in the installation and maintenance of protective barriers, stiles, fencing and signage that are essential to the protection of restoration investments.

At this time we would not anticipate needing to request future OHV Trust funding for maintenance of this project once implemented except in the event of a major failure of loss of barrier structures requiring a major expenditure beyond agency capabilities. Each fiscal year the Forest budget receives appropriated watershed monitoring funding. These funds will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of this restoration project after implementation. Any repair or maintenance needs detected in out-years will be effectively treated using Forest Service allocated watershed improvement funds.

Increased force-account LE support is expected to play a larger role in post-project monitoring for the Miner Ridge projects. This will be accomplished with the help of two additional Law enforcement Officers being added to the workforce in FY 2006, to augment the existing MNF program. In 2006, the MNF led the nation in the number of detected and seized drug trafficking organization (DTO) marijuana operations. For this reason, the LE staff on the Forest is being increased with Federal assistance to help reduce DTO occurrences, allowing more time for LE to concentrate on other issues including OHV enforcement (Domestic Security DTO Funding Act 2007).

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Mendocino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Mendocino National Forest Road 20N35 Decommission Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-10-R04**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

This restoration project will protect water quality and anadromous fish habitat in the Black Butte River from future road failures. Culverts left in this abandoned road will eventually rust out or become plugged with debris resulting in over 12,000 cubic yards of material being washed into the Black Butte River.

Closure of the road would benefit northern spotted owl as there would be no noise created by OHV use and the road would become vegetated with conifers, brush and grass.

During the environmental analysis phase, the archeologist found no cultural or historical resources along the road corridor.

Soils – Soils in the project area are derived from meta-volcanic rock. Nunes soil series soils have moderate fertility for conifer growth, a moderate to rapid runoff rate and a severe erosion hazard. Based on these soil characteristics, erosion control materials such as cereal grain seed, rice straw and erosion blankets will be applied to exposed soil areas.

Water Quality - Erosion control measures will limit the amount of erosion, but there will be a short time when water quality decreases as the stream crossings stabilize with rock and vegetation. Over the long term, water quality will remain good as the project will prevent culverts from being washed out and road gullies will be eliminated. This is a benefit to protecting anadromous fish habitat and water quality for other aquatic resources.

Special-status species Habitat – The Black Butte River supports essential fish habitat (EFH) for spawning and rearing of threatened winter run steelhead and threatened late fall run of Chinook salmon. Both species are managed under the Endangered Species Act. The Black Butte River is designated as a Tier 1 Key Watershed under the Northwest Forest Plan to provide refugia for anadromous fish. This project will assure that their habitat is not degraded by future culvert failures and erosion of fill material into the tributaries and river.

The watershed also provides habitat for foothill yellow legged frogs, southern torrent salamanders and western pond turtles, designated as Forest Service Sensitive species.

Preparation of the environmental document revealed that there are northern spotted owl habitat and peregrine falcons in the vicinity of the project. This will require a limited operating period resulting in contract work starting after July 31st. Wet season shutdown will occur in early November, which is prior to the spotted owl mating period in February.

Cultural Resources - The Ranger District archeologist walked the road and determined the road decommissioning would not affect any paleontological, archeological or historical sites.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

This restoration project is in compliance with the Northwest Forest Plan to reduce road miles in a Tier 1 Key Watershed and to maintain or protect anadromous habitat in the Black Butte River and its tributaries. The project protects water quality in the long term by eliminating the potential failure of stream crossings and eroding of the road surface into tributaries.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
	Educational signage.
	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

LE - Law enforcement patrols can easily evaluate the effectiveness of the road closure as the closure barrier is adjacent to and visible from a county road. Forest law enforcement agents frequent this general area, as it is known for illegal marijuana growing and is also heavily used by the public during the fall hunting season.

Site specific planning - The planning of this decommissioning project began in 2003. The final NEPA Decision Memo document was signed in 2004. Since then engineers, geologists and hydrologists have examined the road and discussed various decommissioning treatments. The road and stream crossings have been surveyed by the engineering staff with de-construction plans being proposed and reviewed by resource specialists. A contract to decommission a portion of the road was developed, advertised and awarded in September 2007. With this pre-planning, developing a contract for the balance of the work in 2008 will be small.

Traffic control devices - A barrier consisting of soil and rock will be placed in a through cut at the beginning of the road. Trees and brush are on the slopes of the through cut preventing driving around the soil/rock barrier which is about 200 feet from the intersection with County Road 311. Since this is a dead end road, the other end terminates in the forest.

Native plants and materials - Depending on the steepness of slopes at the stream crossings, they will either be mulched with certified weed free straw or covered with erosion control blankets. Prior to mulching, the slopes will be seeded with weed free cereal grains. Wheat or barley will give additional ground cover until native seed is cast into the area.

Conifer seedlings will also be planted on slopes of the crossings.

Rolling dips constructed in the road bed to control road drainage, as well as fill material waste areas, will be covered with straw mulch. The road bed will also be ripped to improve water infiltration and provide a seed bed for grass and conifer seed. Vegetation removed from the fill slopes will be scattered on the road bed.

BMPs - Region 5 Forest Service water quality best management practices have been designed into the project plans and contract. A year after the contract, the practices will be evaluated for effectiveness. This evaluation is sent to the North Coast Water Quality Control Board as part of an annual BMP report. Past evaluations have shown that implementation of BMP’s are very effective in controlling soil erosion and protecting water quality.

BMP’s applied to this project are:
BMP 2.2: Erosion Control Plan
BMP 2.3: Timing of Construction Activities
BMP 2.4: Road Slope Stabilization
BMP 2.7: Control of Road Drainage
BMP 2.12: Servicing and Refueling of Equipment
BMP 2.19: Disposal of Roadside Debris
BMP 2.26: Obliteration or Decommissioning of Roads

Educational signage - This is a remote part of the forest and no signs will be necessary.

Alternate OHV routes - There are no other OHV routes affected by this road decommissioning.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Listed are several plans that discuss this type of work:

1) **Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision – April 1994**
   a. **Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives**
   b. **Watershed Analysis**
2) **Mendocino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan – February 1995**
   a. **Standards and Guidelines**
   b. **Management area #39**
3) **Black Butte River Watershed Analysis - 1996**
4) **Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan/Habitat Management Plan – July 2007**
5) **Mendocino National Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) Plan – ongoing**
6) **Region 5 Best Management Practice Evaluation Program (BMPEP) - ongoing**

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation - Each fiscal year the forest receives appropriated monitoring funds from Congress. Forest personnel will use these funds to evaluate the effectiveness of the work. Eroding areas and those areas needing revegetation will be treated with allocated watershed improvement funds.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)	
X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Mendocino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Mendocino National Forest Sanborn Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-10-R05**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
X	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Successful restoration measures designed to correct OHV impacts have remained a key objective of the Mendocino National Forest's (MNF) OHV program for over 20 years (see photos). Numerous OHV restoration projects have been photo-documented and monitored since 1982. As a result of the technology and methods learned over the years, it is expected that all restoration projects proposed in this application will achieve and sustain the intended desired results of the prescribed treatments. These restoration projects are interrelated and consistent with the other OHV grant applications being submitted during this cycle. Funding these proposed projects will ensure that Mendocino NF OHV management maintains a comprehensive program that provides a balance between responsible OHV opportunities and sound environmental protection and stewardship.

A primary goal of the MNF's OHV restoration program is to provide a systematic process for the detection of direct or indirect effects to natural or cultural resource values resulting from OHV activity. A comprehensive monitoring program has been designed to identify and correct motorized impacts as they are detected. Any findings of adverse effects to natural or cultural resources caused by OHV use are documented and prioritized for a prescribed action to correct the problem. Corrective actions are designed to maintain and restore biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat and meet State and Federal standards for soil conservation, water quality objectives and cultural resource protection pursuant to, and in compliance with requirements contained in the OHV Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Regulations and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 261.15.

Soils – Soil loss above existing background will be effectively eliminated in the Sanborn Cabin area by mechanically obliterating unclassified illegal OHV routes and restoring impacted landforms. These actions will be followed by mulching and permanently closing the treated areas to prevent any future illegal unclassified routes from reoccurring.

Water quality – Water quality in the Sanborn area will be improved by implementing the prescribed actions designed to prevent further soil loss as described in the "soils" response above and by employing Best Management Practices (BMPs) cited in #4 below. Treatments will prevent erosion thereby protecting water quality and downstream fishery habitat in the Stony Creek Watershed.

Special-status species habitat - This restoration project is located in Management Area (MA) #21 "Blue Slides" as designated in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP). This MA is entirely within Late Successional Reserve RC313, largely critical habitat for the "threatened and endangered" listed northern spotted Owl. It contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting habitat for northern NSO and goshawk. The eastern portion, encompassing this project area, also contains foraging habitat for bald eagle and osprey. The sensitive plant species Epilobium nivium, is known to occur in this area. This project is consistent with current management direction for OHV use on designated routes only.

Cultural resources – The Sanborn restoration project area has been surveyed for cultural resources. No prehistoric or historic cultural resources were identified within the area proposed for restoration treatment.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

Special-status species Habitat - This restoration project is located in Management Area (MA) #21 "Blue Slides" as designated in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP). This MA is entirely within Late Successional Reserve RC313, largely critical habitat for the "threatened and endangered" listed northern spotted Owl. It contains substantial acreages of suitable nesting habitat for northern NSO and goshawk. The eastern portion, encompassing this project area, also contains foraging habitat for bald eagle and osprey. The sensitive plant species Epilobium nivium, is known to occur in this area. This project is consistent with current management direction for OHV use on designated routes only.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law Enforcement - LE patrols are an integral part of the Mendocino National Forest OHV program, ensuring that restoration investments result in success. LE Funding assistance at the requested level should allow the Forest to effectively carryout LE activities that will address all issues related to OHV use including monitoring and protecting restored areas. LE associated with the Sanborn Cabin restoration activities will stress protective barrier and sign maintenance to prevent resource damage. Patrols in this area should average 2-3 per week during the fall-spring OHV season.

Site Specific Planning - Success criteria developed through the NEPA planning process for this project will be measured by the effectiveness of specific resource treatments and protection measures designed to maintain and restore the natural contours of the land, sustain biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat, provide wildlife habitat protection and achieve water quality objectives. After achieving the desired condition, the treated area will be closely monitored to ensure that the site remains closed to motorized use.

Traffic control devices - The Forest will use barriers and fences as needed to restrict motorized impacts from reoccurring on Sanborn area restored sites. Wherever possible, natural features such as logs, rocks and brush will be used to accomplish this protection while reducing visual impacts and costs. No-dig railroad-tie barriers will be installed where natural materials are unavailable on site.

Native plants and materials - After scarification and soil blending to restore OHV impacted areas, mulch materials such as geo-jute and certified weed-free rice straw will be applied to treated areas to provide a seed bed to promote natural regeneration of area vegetation. The prescribed treatment also includes planting vegetation screens to conceal previous OHV use and deter future use from reoccurring. The Forest plans to supplement natural regeneration by planting larger containerized native trees propagated from seed collected from similar growing sites in or near the Forest or purchased from local nurseries specializing in native plants such as the California Conservation Corps in Yountville.

BMPs - In addition to the monitoring process associated with current OHMVR Regulations, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP) will be implemented to protect and enhance the viability of species in areas of OHV activity. This is accomplished using Forest Service BMPs. These practices are designed to provide site-specific methods and techniques to protect water quality. BMPs incorporated include:
1)BMP 2.3: Timing of Construction Activities
2) BMP 4-7: Water Quality monitoring of OHV Use according to a developed plan
3) BMP 5-4: Revegetation of surface disturbed areas
4) BMP 7-7: Management by closure to use

Educational signage - Strategically posted signs will help educate the public about why the area has been closed. Examples of signs being used to interpret restoration projects include “This Area Closed for Rehabilitation, Please Use Other Trails” (photos).

Incorporation of alternate OHV routes - In this area of high OHV trail density numerous legal OHV route opportunities exist. These designated routes provide reasonable alternatives for connectivity around any closed and restored areas proposed in this project.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Mendocino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, 1995 – available in CD format from the Forest Supervisor's Office in Willows, CA, or online at: http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/publications/fp/

Annual Monitoring Program Report Plan – August 2006. On file OHMVR Division.

Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan/Habitat Management Plan – July 2007. Submitted with 2005-2006 grant request on file with OHMVR Division. Updated 2007 - Form F in this grant request.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Volunteer and other contributed assistance is planned to play a significant role in the implementation and future operational costs associated with the Sanborn Cabin restoration project. Volunteer agreements have been established with the Blue Ribbon Coalition, numerous clubs and organizations representing OHV interests. Long-time partners, Valley View and Salt Creek State Conservation Camps and the Fouts Springs Youth Detention Facility are available and always willing to contribute low cost labor to assist OHV management projects. These camps have proved instrumental in past restoration activities that have included the application of mulch, fertilizer and erosion control blankets to restored areas. In addition, the camps are experienced in the installation and maintenance of protective barriers, stiles, fencing and signage that are essential to the protection of restoration investments.

At this time we would not anticipate needing to request future OHV Trust funding for maintenance of this project once implemented except in the event of a major failure of loss of barrier structures requiring a major expenditure beyond agency capabilities. Each fiscal year the Forest budget receives appropriated watershed monitoring funding. These funds will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of this restoration project after implementation. Any repair or maintenance needs detected in out-years will be effectively treated using Forest Service allocated watershed improvement funds.

Increased force-account LE support is expected to play a larger role in post-project monitoring for the Miner Ridge projects. This will be accomplished with the help of two additional Law enforcement Officers being added to the workforce in FY 2006, to augment the existing MNF program. In 2006, the MNF led the nation in the number of detected and seized drug trafficking organization (DTO) marijuana operations. For this reason, the LE staff on the Forest is being increased with Federal assistance to help reduce DTO occurrences, allowing more time for LE to concentrate on other issues including OHV enforcement (Domestic Security DTO Funding Act 2007).

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Mendocino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Mendocino National Forest St. John Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-10-R06**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Successful restoration measures designed to correct OHV impacts have remained a key objective of the Mendocino National Forest's (MNF) OHV program for over 20 years. Numerous OHV restoration projects have been photo-documented and monitored since 1982 (see photos). As a result of the technology and methods learned over the years, it is expected that all restoration projects proposed in this application will achieve and sustain the intended desired results of the prescribed treatments. These restoration projects are interrelated and consistent with the other OHV grant applications being submitted during this cycle. Funding these proposed projects will ensure that Mendocino NF OHV management maintains a comprehensive program that provides a balance between responsible OHV opportunities and sound environmental protection and stewardship.

A primary goal of the MNF's OHV restoration program is to provide a systematic process for the detection of direct or indirect effects to natural or cultural resource values resulting from OHV activity. A comprehensive monitoring program has been designed to identify and correct motorized impacts as they are detected. Any findings of adverse effects to natural or cultural resources caused by OHV use are documented and prioritized for a prescribed action to correct the problem. Corrective actions are designed to maintain and restore biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat and meet State and Federal standards for soil conservation, water quality objectives and cultural resource protection pursuant to, and in compliance with requirements contained in the OHV Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Regulations and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 261.15.

Soils – Soil loss above existing background will be effectively eliminated in the St. John Mountain area by mechanically obliterating unclassified illegal OHV routes, restoring impacted landforms and improving drainage. These actions will be followed by mulching and permanently closing the treated areas to prevent any future illegal unclassified routes from reoccurring.

Water quality – Water quality in the St. John Mountain area will be improved by implementing the prescribed actions designed to prevent further soil loss as described in the "soils" response above and by employing Best Management Practices (BMPs) cited in #4 below. Treatments will prevent erosion thereby protecting water quality and downstream fishery habitat in the Stony Creek Watershed.

Special-status species habitat - This restoration project is located in Management Area (MA) #3 and #14 as designated in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP). These MAs contain habitat for special status species including deer, bald eagle, California thrasher, northern spotted owl and goshawk. A potential peregrine falcon nest site is also located within MA #14 near the summit of St. John Mountain.
A portion of key summer range for deer in the vicinity of wolf Glade is closed to OHV used to minimize disturbance. Special wild trout regulations aimed at retaining a high quality fishery are in effect for certain parts of Stony Creek, the primary watershed in this project area. The sensitive plants Antirrhinmum subcordatum, Hesperolinon drymariodes and Epilobium nivius grow in the project area. This project is consistent with current management direction for OHV use on designated routes only.

Cultural resources – The St. John Mountain restoration project area has been surveyed for cultural resources. No prehistoric or historic cultural resources were identified within the area proposed for restoration treatment.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
X	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

Although protection of special status species is the chief reason for implementing this project (item 2), conditions affecting St. John Mountain present unique challenges to this effort. A major wildfire in 2001, has contributed to illegal OHV use by removing most of the vegetative cover. This condition has led to illegal hill climbing on an existing power line easement and switchback cutting of the access road to the summit of St. John Mountain. Previous attempts to fence and sign areas of illegal off-route use have been rendered ineffective following the fire. Increased use in this popular area adjacent to the Fouts Springs OHV Staging Area is also contributing to accelerated damage from this illegal trail proliferation. A permanent remedy consisting of route restoration and effective closure methods is the primary objective of this project.

Applicant Score	**2**	Division Findings	**2**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law enforcement - LE patrols are an integral part of the Mendocino National Forest OHV program, ensuring that restoration investments result in success. LE Funding assistance at the requested level should allow the Forest to effectively carryout LE activities that will address all issues related to OHV use including monitoring and protecting restored areas. LE associated with St. John Mountain restoration activities will stress protective barrier and sign maintenance to prevent resource damage. Patrols in this area should average 1-2 per week during the fall-spring OHV season when road 18N06 is open to the public.

Site Specific Planning - This restoration project has been specifically planned through the NEPA process to address existing, on-going issues involving illegal, user-built OHV route proliferation causing impacts to soil, water and wildlife resources. Planning for proper restoration treatment includes using proven techniques and materials to restore and close OHV impacted areas. Success will be measured by the effectiveness of actions to control illegal use. In addition, this project is designed to restore land contours, sustain biodiversity, improve/protect wildlife habitat and achieve water quality objectives as desired outcomes.

Traffic control devices - The Forest will use barriers and fences as needed to restrict motorized impacts from reoccurring on St. John Mountain area restored sites. Wherever possible, natural features such as logs, rocks and brush will be used to accomplish this protection while reducing visual impacts and costs. No-dig railroad-tie barriers will be installed where natural materials are unavailable on site.

Native plants and materials - After scarification and soil blending to restore OHV impacted areas, mulch materials such as geo-jute and certified weed-free rice straw will be applied to treated areas to provide a seed bed to promote natural regeneration of area vegetation. The prescribed treatment also includes planting some vegetation screens to conceal previous OHV use and deter future use from reoccurring. The Forest plans to supplement natural regeneration by planting larger containerized native trees propagated from seed collected from similar growing sites in or near the Forest or purchased from local nurseries specializing in native plants such as the California Conservation Corps in Yountville.

BMPs - In addition to the monitoring process associated with current OHMVR Regulations, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (L&RMP) will be implemented to protect and enhance the viability of species in areas of OHV activity. Forest Service BMPs include:
1) BMP 4-7: Water Quality monitoring of OHV Use
2) BMP 5-4: Revegetation of surface disturbed areas
3) BMP 7-7: Management by closure
4) BMP 2-7: Control of road drainage

Educational signage - Once this area has been restored, signs will be posted at strategic points along road 18N06 to help educate the public about why an area has been closed. Examples of signs being used to interpret restoration projects include “This Area Closed for Rehabilitation, Please Use Other Trails (see photos).”

Incorporation of alternate OHV routes - Road 18N06 will remain open and legal for OHV use ensuring no need for alternative routes.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

Mendocino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, 1995 – available in CD format from the Forest Supervisor's Office in Willows, CA, or online at: http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/publications/fp/

Annual Monitoring Program Report Plan – August 2006. On file OHMVR Division.

Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan/Habitat Management Plan – July 2007. Submitted with 2005-2006 grant request on file with OHMVR Division. Updated 2007 - Form F in this grant request.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Volunteer and other contributed assistance will play a significant role in the implementation and future operational costs associated with the Gilmore Ridge Restoration projects. Volunteer agreements are already established with the Blue Ribbon Coalition, numerous clubs and organizations representing OHV interests. Long-time partners, Valley View and Salt Creek State Conservation Camps and the Fouts Springs Youth Detention Facility are available and always willing to contribute low cost labor to assist OHV management projects. These camps have proved instrumental in past restoration activities that have included the application of mulch, fertilizer and erosion control blankets to restored areas. In addition, the camps are experienced in the installation and maintenance of protective barriers, stiles, fencing and signage that are essential to the protection of restoration investments.

At this time we would not anticipate needing to request future OHV Trust funding for maintenance of this project once implemented except in the event of a major failure of loss of barrier structures requiring a major expenditure beyond agency capabilities. Each fiscal year the Forest budget receives appropriated watershed monitoring funding. These funds will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of this restoration project after implementation. Any repair or maintenance needs detected in out-years will be effectively treated using Forest Service allocated watershed improvement funds.

Increased force-account LE support is expected to play a larger role in post-project monitoring for the Miner Ridge projects. This will be accomplished with the help of two additional Law enforcement Officers being added to the workforce in FY 2006, to augment the existing MNF program. In 2006, the MNF led the nation in the number of detected and seized drug trafficking organization (DTO) marijuana operations. For this reason, the LE staff on the Forest is being increased with Federal assistance to help reduce DTO occurrences, allowing more time for LE to concentrate on other issues including OHV enforcement (Domestic Security DTO Funding Act 2007).

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Mendocino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Mendocino National Forest Yuki Wilderness - Phase 1 Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-10-R07**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
X	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Successful restoration measures to correct OHV impacts have remained a key objective of the Mendocino National Forest's (MNF) OHV program for over 20 years. Numerous OHV restoration projects have been photo-documented and monitored since 1982. As a result of the technology and methods learned over the years, it is anticipated that the Yuki Wilderness Restoration (Phase 1) proposed in this application will achieve and sustain the desired results of the prescribed treatments. This restoration project is interrelated and consistent with the other OHV grant applications being submitted during this cycle. Funding this proposed project will ensure that Mendocino NF OHV management maintains a program providing a balance between responsible OHV opportunities and sound environmental protection and stewardship.

A primary goal of the MNF's OHV restoration program is to provide a systematic process for the detection of direct or indirect effects to natural or cultural resource values resulting from OHV activity. A comprehensive monitoring program has been designed to identify and correct motorized impacts as they are detected. Any findings of adverse effects to natural or cultural resources caused by OHV use are documented and prioritized for a prescribed action to correct the problem. Corrective actions are designed to maintain and restore biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat and meet State and Federal standards for soil conservation, water quality objectives and cultural resource protection pursuant to, and in compliance with requirements contained in the OHV Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Regulations and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 261.15.

In 2006 the Mendocino National Forest acquired 95,000 acres of new wilderness with passage of H.R. 233. Within each of these newly designated wilderness areas, including the Yuki Wilderness, there are many miles of existing system roads, as well as unauthorized OHV trails identified during the Route Designation Inventory process, that need to be permanently closed and decommissioned in order to meet the intent of a designated wilderness area.

Soils – Soil loss above existing background will be eliminated within the newly designated Yuki Wilderness by decommissioning and permanently closing existing system roads and unauthorized OHV trails, which are no longer needed and can not be maintained. Culverts and fills will be removed before they can fail and discharge large amounts of sediment into the Thatcher Tier 1 Key Watershed. The fill material will be moved back from the stream channel, reshaped, stabilized and mulched/seeded, as needed, to ensure timely revegetation. The remaining road beds will be hydrologically stabilized and barricades installed to prevent further motorized use, allowing the area to revegetate and heal, restoring the area to a more natural wilderness character.

Water Quality – Water quality will be improved by decommissioning and closing roads and unauthorized trails as described in "soils" above. The Thatcher Watershed drains into the Middle Fork of the Eel River, which has been listed by the State of California as an "Impaired Watershed", for both sediment and temperature, under Section 303d of the Clean Water Act. The State has developed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standards for sediment and temperature designed to improve watershed conditions. Removing culverts and fills, and hydrologically stabilizing roads within the Yuki Wilderness will prevent road failure and reduce their contribution to sediment loads within the watershed, helping to attain TMDL standards.

Special-Status Species Habitat –The northern half of the Yuki Wilderness, the emphasis in this Phase 1 proposal, is within the Thatcher Tier 1 Key Watershed, designated under the Northwest Forest Plan and defined as a watershed that contributes directly to the conservation of at-risk anadromous salmonids (Thatcher-Williams and Elk Creek Watershed Assessment). Additionally, most of the Yuki Wilderness lies within 2 Northwest Forest Plan-designated Late-Successional Reserves (LSR), Grizzly LSR (RC310) and Sanhedrin LSR (RC315). These LSRs are a critical part of the network designed to protect and enhance late-successional forest habitat for northern spotted owls and other species dependent upon its attributes, and to help ensure the conservation of species diversity (Mendocino National Forest Late-Successional Reserve Assessment). The area also provides potential habitat for several Forest Service sensitive botanical species such as Lewisia stebbinsii and Lupinus antoninus (Mendocino LRMP). Decommissioning and permanently closing roads/trails will reduce sediment discharge, improving water quality and habitat conditions for anadromous fish. The proposed work will also eliminate continued motorized disturbance and greatly reduce human impacts, improving solitude and wildlife and botanical habitat conditions.

Cultural Resources -- The project area has been surveyed for cultural resources. Several sites are present within the prism of roads to be decommissioned and closed. These sites will be flagged for avoidance, ensuring protection of these cultural resources (Cultural Resource Approval). Overall, decommissioning and permanent closure of the roads/trails within the Yuki Wilderness will serve to protect an area of rich cultural heritage, protecting all sites from potential damage, particularly that associated with the proliferation of unauthorized OHV use.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
X	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

In 2006 the Mendocino National Forest acquired 95,000 acres of new wilderness with passage of H.R. 233. Within each of these newly designated wilderness areas, including the Yuki Wilderness, there are many miles of existing system roads, as well as unauthorized OHV trails identified during the Route Designation Inventory process, that need to be permanently closed and decommissioned in order to meet the intent of a designated wilderness area. Motorized use within the Yuki Wilderness is no longer allowed, rendering the many miles of roads and unauthorized OHV trails a resource liability that the Mendocino National Forest no longer has the ability to maintain. It is imperative that we find a way to decommission, hydrologically stabilize and permanently close these roads/trails before they begin to fail, resulting in unacceptable resource damage.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***

X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law Enforcement - Law enforcement patrols are an integral part of the MNF OHV program, ensuring that restoration investments result in success. LE funding assistance at the requested level should allow the Forest to effectively carry out LE activities that will address all issues related to OHV use including monitoring and protecting restored areas. LE associated with the Yuki Wilderness Restoration Project will stress protective barrier and sign maintenance to prevent future motorized access into the wilderness. Comprehensive OHV guide-maps identify legal designated routes. The Forest website (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/recreation/wild/>) displays Yuki Wilderness maps and identifies the area as “Non-Motorized”, consistent with Mendocino LRMP direction for wilderness area management.

Site Specific Planning - Project success will be measured by the effectiveness of specific resource treatments and protection measures designed to maintain and restore the natural contours of the land, achieve water quality objectives, improve and protect wildlife habitat and sustain biodiversity. After achieving the desired condition, the treated area will be closely monitored to ensure that the site remains closed to motorized use.

Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices -The Yuki Wilderness Restoration Project will utilize barriers to prevent future motorized access to the wilderness. Wherever possible, natural features such as earthen or log barriers, rocks or brush will be utilized to reduce visual impacts and costs. Many of these roads are located in relatively flat, open country, presenting a challenge to effectively blocking motorized access. Where necessary, more permanent features, such as treated peeler poles or railroad-tie barriers may be utilized.

Use of native plants and materials - Following closure, most of the decommissioned roads are expected to rapidly revegetate with native plants present on-site. Where immediate stabilization or revegetation is needed, particularly to stabilize fills following culvert removal, mulching and seeding will be utilized. Mulching materials will be either certified weed-free rice straw or native brush/slash, which reduce raindrop impact and provide a seed bed for germination of sterile cereal grains. These cereal grains are utilized for short-term stabilization of loose, bare soil, and will give way to colonization with native grasses, forbs, brush and tree species in subsequent years.

Incorporation of BMPs - In addition to the monitoring process associated with current OHMVR Regulations, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) require us to protect and enhance the viability of species in areas of OHV activity. This is accomplished using Forest Service Best Management Practices, which are designed to provide site-specific methods and techniques to protect water quality. BMPs used include: 2.4, 2.7, 2.9, 2.12, 2.13 and 2.26 (see NEPA Letter to the Files).

Educational signage - Once an area has been restored, the MNF uses a variety of signs to help educate the public about why an area has been closed. Since signing of the Wilderness Bill the MNF has begun a public education process including press releases, maps, public contacts and postings to the MNF website. At each barrier a sign will be posted “Wilderness Boundary - No Motorized Access”.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:
Mendocino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, 1995 – available in CD format from the Forest Supervisor's Office in Willows, CA, or online at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/publications/fp/

Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act (HR233), 10/06 – online at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/recreation/wild/wilderness/hr-233.pdf

Mendocino National Forest information regarding the new wilderness designations – online at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/recreation/wild/

Wilderness Act of 1964 – Text of Act online at: http://www.wildwilderness.org/docs/act1964.htm

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Combination -- A combination of funding sources is anticipated to fund future operational costs associated with implementation of Yuki Wilderness Restoration Project - Phase 1, primarily the Applicant's (Agency's) operational budget and volunteer support.

Increased monitoring of restoration projects, like Yuki, by Agency law enforcement (LE) is anticipated with the addition of two additional LE Officers and a Special Agent position to augment the MNF program. Last year the Forest led the nation in the number of Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) operations engaged in marijuana cultivation. As a result, the LE staff on the MNF is being increased to curtail the DTO activity, so that other LE issues, including OHV and wilderness management, can be dealt with more effectively. A combination of LE patrols and Agency personnel will monitor the barriers and signs to make sure that they are being effective and are not being vandalized or bypassed. We have also received the promise of assistance from the California Wilderness Coalition with posting of boundaries and signs and anticipate that they will actively assist us in monitoring and maintaining the Yuki Wilderness Restoration Project.

Routine maintenance and repairs to barriers and signs would be undertaken by Agency personnel with the support of volunteer labor from groups such as the California Wilderness Coalition and the Backcountry Horsemen's Association. Over time, as the Yuki Wilderness becomes known and utilized by more people, we anticipate many more volunteers, both individuals and groups, will come forward as active partners in assisting the MNF with monitoring and maintenance of the wilderness road closures.

At this time we would not anticipate requesting future OHV Trust Funds for maintenance of this project once implementation of the road decommissioning and closure are completed unless unforeseen circumstances occur, such as major failure or vandalism to the barrier structures, necessitating a significant expenditure of funds beyond Agency capabilities. Under such circumstances we would seek supplemental funding from OHV Trust Funds, other grant sources and volunteers.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Mendocino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Mendocino National Forest Yuki Wilderness - Phase 2 Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-10-R08**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

Successful restoration measures to correct OHV impacts have remained a key objective of the Mendocino National Forest's (MNF) OHV program for over 20 years. Numerous OHV restoration projects have been photo-documented and monitored since 1982. As a result of the technology and methods learned over the years, it is anticipated that the Yuki Wilderness Restoration (Phase 2) proposed in this application will achieve and sustain the desired results of the prescribed treatments. This restoration project is interrelated and consistent with the other OHV grant applications being submitted during this cycle. Funding this proposed project will ensure that Mendocino NF OHV management maintains a program providing a balance between responsible OHV opportunities and sound environmental protection and stewardship.

A primary goal of the MNF's OHV restoration program is to provide a systematic process for the detection of direct or indirect effects to natural or cultural resource values resulting from OHV activity. A comprehensive monitoring program has been designed to identify and correct motorized impacts as they are detected. Any findings of adverse effects to natural or cultural resources caused by OHV use are documented and prioritized for a prescribed action to correct the problem. Corrective actions are designed to maintain and restore biodiversity, improve wildlife habitat and meet State and Federal standards for soil conservation, water quality objectives and cultural resource protection pursuant to, and in compliance with requirements contained in the OHV Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Regulations and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 261.15.

In 2006 the Mendocino National Forest acquired 95,000 acres of new wilderness with passage of H.R. 233. Within each of these newly designated wilderness areas, including the Yuki Wilderness, there are many miles of existing system roads, as well as unauthorized OHV trails identified during the Route Designation Inventory process, that need to be permanently closed and decommissioned in order to meet the intent of a designated wilderness area.

The Yuki Restoration Project (Phase 2) proposes to decommission and permanently close the remainder of the roads and unauthorized OHV trails within the Yuki Wilderness that were not completed under the Yuki Restoration Project (Phase 1). The Phase 2 proposal also requests the funding needed to complete the NEPA and CEQA analysis and documentation, which are prerequisites to implementation of the proposed work.

Soils – Soil loss above existing background will be eliminated within the newly designated Yuki Wilderness by decommissioning and permanently closing existing system roads and unauthorized OHV trails, which are no longer needed and can not be maintained. Phase 2 concentrates on removing the remainder of the roads within the Yuki Wilderness that do not have culverts. The road beds will be hydrologically stabilized and barricades installed to prevent further motorized use, allowing the area to revegetate and heal, restoring the area to a more natural wilderness character and reducing sediment into the Thatcher Tier 1 Key Watershed and the Elk Creek Watershed, both of which drain into the Middle Fork of the Eel River, a State-listed 303d sediment and temperature impaired watershed.

Water Quality – Water quality will be improved by decommissioning and closing roads and unauthorized trails as described in "soils" above. The northern half of the Yuki Wilderness lies within the Thatcher Watershed, and the southern half lies within the Elk Creek Watershed. Both watersheds drain into the Middle Fork of the Eel River, which has been listed by the State of California as an "Impaired Watershed", for both sediment and temperature, under Section 303d of the Clean Water Act. The State has developed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standards for sediment and temperature designed to improve watershed conditions. Hydrologically stabilizing roads within the Yuki Wilderness will prevent road failure and reduce their contribution to sediment loads within the watershed, helping to meet TMDL standards.

Special-Status Species Habitat – The Phase 2 proposal decommissions the remaining roads/trails in the northern half of the Yuki Wilderness and all of the roads/trails in the southern half. The northern half of the Yuki Wilderness is within the Thatcher Tier 1 Key Watershed, designated under the Northwest Forest Plan and defined as a watershed that contributes directly to the conservation of at-risk anadromous salmonids (Thatcher-Williams and Elk Creek Watershed Assessment). The southern half is within the Elk Creek Watershed, which provides important anadromous fish habitat,

although not designated as a Key Watershed. Additionally, most of the Yuki Wilderness lies within 2 Northwest Forest Plan-designated Late-Successional Reserves (LSR), Grizzly LSR (RC310) and Sanhedrin LSR (RC315). These LSRs are a critical part of the network designed to protect and enhance late-successional forest habitat for northern spotted owls and other species dependent upon its attributes, and to help ensure the conservation of species diversity (Mendocino National Forest Late-Successional Reserve Assessment). The area also provides potential habitat for several Forest Service sensitive botanical species such as Lewisia stebbinsii and Lupinus antoninus (Mendocino LRMP.) Decommissioning and permanently closing roads/trails will reduce sediment discharge, improving water quality and habitat conditions for anadromous fish. The proposed work will also eliminate continued motorized disturbance and greatly reduce human impacts, improving solitude and wildlife and botanical habitat conditions.

Cultural Resources -- The project area has been partially surveyed for cultural resources, and as part of this proposal the remaining area would be surveyed. Any sites present within the prism of roads to be decommissioned and closed will be flagged for avoidance, ensuring protection of these cultural resources. Overall, decommissioning and permanent closure of the roads/trails within the Yuki Wilderness will serve to protect an area of rich cultural heritage, protecting all sites from potential damage, particularly that associated with the proliferation of unauthorized OHV use.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
X	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

In 2006 the Mendocino National Forest acquired 95,000 acres of new wilderness with passage of H.R. 233. Within each of these newly designated wilderness areas, including the Yuki Wilderness, there are many miles of existing system roads, as well as unauthorized OHV trails identified during the Route Designation Inventory process, that need to be permanently closed and decommissioned in order to meet the intent of a designated wilderness area. Motorized use within the Yuki Wilderness is no longer allowed, rendering the many miles of roads and unauthorized OHV trails a resource liability that the Mendocino National Forest no longer has the ability to maintain. It is imperative that we find a way to decommission, hydrologically stabilize and permanently close these roads/trails before they begin to fail, resulting in unacceptable resource damage.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Law Enforcement - Law enforcement patrols are an integral part of the MNF OHV program, ensuring that restoration investments result in success. LE funding assistance at the requested level should allow the Forest to effectively carry out LE activities that will address all issues related to OHV use including monitoring and protecting restored areas. LE associated with the Yuki Wilderness Restoration Project will stress protective barrier and sign maintenance to prevent future motorized access into the wilderness. Comprehensive OHV guide-maps identify all legal designated routes. The Forest website (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/recreation/wild/>) displays Yuki Wilderness maps and identifies the area as “Non-Motorized”, consistent with Mendocino LRMP direction for management of wilderness areas.

Site Specific Planning - Project success will be measured by the effectiveness of specific resource treatments and protection measures designed to maintain and restore the natural contours of the land, achieve water quality objectives, improve and protect wildlife habitat and sustain biodiversity. After achieving the desired condition, the treated area will be closely monitored to ensure that the site remains closed to motorized use.

Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices -The Yuki Wilderness Restoration Project will utilize barriers to prevent future motorized access to the wilderness. Wherever possible, natural features such as earthen or log barriers, rocks or brush will be utilized to reduce visual impacts and costs. Many of these roads are located in relatively flat and open country, presenting a challenge to effectively blocking motorized access. Where necessary, more permanent features, such as treated peeler poles or railroad-tie barriers may be utilized.

Use of native plants and materials - Most of the roads to be decommissioned are expected to rapidly revegetate with native plants present on-site, in the absence of continued motorized disturbance. Where immediate stabilization or revegetation is needed, mulching and seeding will be utilized. Mulching materials will be either certified weed-free rice straw or native brush/slash, which reduce raindrop impact and provide a seed bed for germination of sterile cereal grains. These cereal grains are utilized for short-term stabilization of loose, bare soil, and will give way to colonization with native grasses, forbs, brush and tree species in subsequent years.

Incorporation of BMPs - In addition to the monitoring process associated with current OHMVR Regulations, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives in the MNF Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) require us to protect and enhance the viability of species in areas of OHV activity. This is accomplished using Forest Service Best Management Practices, which are designed to provide site-specific methods and techniques to protect water quality. BMPs used include: 2.4, 2.7, 2.9, 2.12, 2.13 and 2.26.

Educational signage - Once an area has been restored, the MNF uses a variety of signs to help educate the public about why an area has been closed. Since signing of the Wilderness Bill the MNF has begun a public education process including press releases, maps, public contacts and postings to the MNF website. At each barrier a sign will be posted “Wilderness Boundary - No Motorized Access”.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.				
Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:
Mendocino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, 1995 – available in CD format from the Forest Supervisor's Office in Willows, CA, or online at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/publications/fp/

Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act (HR233), 10/06 – online at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/recreation/wild/wilderness/hr-233.pdf

Mendocino National Forest information regarding the new wilderness designations – online at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/recreation/wild/

Wilderness Act of 1964 – Text of Act online at: http://www.wildwilderness.org/docs/act1964.htm

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Combination -- A combination of funding sources is anticipated to fund future operational costs associated with implementation of Yuki Wilderness Restoration Project - Phase 2, primarily the Applicant's (Agency's) operational budget and volunteer support.

Increased monitoring of restoration projects, like Yuki, by Agency law enforcement (LE) is anticipated with the addition of two additional LE Officers and a Special Agent position to augment the MNF program. Last year the Forest led the nation in the number of Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) operations engaged in marijuana cultivation. As a result, the LE staff on the MNF is being increased to curtail the DTO activity, so that other LE issues, including OHV and wilderness management, can be dealt with more effectively. A combination of LE patrols and Agency personnel will monitor the barriers and signs to make sure that they are being effective and are not being vandalized or bypassed. We have also received the promise of assistance from the California Wilderness Coalition with posting of boundaries and signs and anticipate that they will actively assist us in monitoring and maintaining the Yuki Wilderness Restoration Project.

Routine maintenance and repairs to barriers and signs would be undertaken by Agency personnel with the support of volunteer labor from groups such as the California Wilderness Coalition and the Backcountry Horsemen's Association. Over time, as the Yuki Wilderness becomes known and utilized by more people, we anticipate many more volunteers, both individuals and groups, to come forward as active partners in assisting the MNF with monitoring and maintenance of the wilderness road closures.

At this time we would not anticipate requesting future OHV Trust Funds for maintenance of this project once implementation of the road decommissioning and closure are completed unless unforeseen circumstances occur, such as major failure or vandalism to the barrier structures, necessitating a significant expenditure of funds beyond Agency capabilities. Under such circumstances we would seek supplemental funding from OHV Trust Funds, other grant sources and volunteers.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)				
	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**			
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**			
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**			
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**			
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**			
Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**
Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42				

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS San Bernardino National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS San Bernardino National Forest Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-14-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**10**	Division Findings	**10**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

The Mountaintop District hosts one of the highest concentrations of TES species in the country, while also providing a unique motorized recreational opportunity for adjacent metropolitan areas. Additionally, the proposed restoration area contains a special interest area for cultural resources at Holcomb Valley. This restoration project will help protect known occurrences of 4 federally threatened, 8 federally endangered, 49 federally sensitive, and 25 watch list species (see attached WHPP for specific species), while allowing for the continued use and sustainable operation of legally designated routes in the surrounding area.

The project will also involve mechanical disturbance of compacted soils to promote seed germination and increase success of transplanted native vegetation. This method, called `chunking` has been proven successful at eliminating unwanted use through disguise of the trail tread while promoting revegetation through soil loosening.

Physical disturbance of these compacted soils will also protect water quality by reducing unwanted water flow along the tread prism thus reducing the chance of sediment being carried `downstream` into any watershed. A powerpoint presentation depicting before and after results of `chunked` trails is available for review at the Supervisor`s Office, OHV Recreation.

Cultural resources will be protected, particularly in the Holcomb Valley area, through elimination of unauthorized use near known heritage sites. Due to sensitivity of heritage resources, these locations are not included on the attached project maps. Information on heritage resources in the area can be obtained by contacting the Supervisor`s Office, Recreation or Heritage.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***

X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

This restoration project will help protect occurrences of 4 federally threatened, 8 federally endangered, 49 federally sensitive, and 25 watch list species (see attached WHPP for specific species) known to exist in close proximity to the proposed restoration area. Detailed species and habitat maps are available for review at the Supervisor`s Office, in Resources or at the Mountaintop RD.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.
X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Measures to ensure success OHV Restoration 08

Law Enforcement - The Ranger District has a Forest Protection Officer (FPO) assigned full-time to OHV patrol. This District FPO works closely with resource and restoration staff to stay informed of restoration activities and adjusts work schedule and location of patrol when necessary to prevent trespass and damage in newly restored areas. District FPOs work predominantly weekend schedules to provide greater presence during peak times of use. (See schedule as part of law enforcement application). Resources staff who monitor the restoration projects are also FPO certified and enforce off-route travel, trespass and resource damage laws while in the field.

Site specific planning - Each specific route to be restored will have site specific analysis completed prior to ground disturbing activities. Surrounding areas will be surveyed for botanical, biological and cultural resources to ensure that no resources are negatively impacted during restoration activity. Routes will also be analyzed for ‘likelihood of success’, based on location, ease of disguise, potential for entrance barriers, etc. Only those routes deemed likely for success will be restored.

Barriers and traffic control devices - Fencing, identified in the project costs and deliverables, will be used in areas where slashing and disguising of restored routes is not likely to be effective. In areas where additional ground disturbance will not further damage resources, ‘chunking’ of the unauthorized trail tread will include the construction of berms or earthen mounds to disguise the restored route and prevent access into the restoration area.

Native plants and materials - This project will use seeds and native plant species provided by the forest nursery and greenhouse. (See restoration project description and/or conservation project description). Seeds will be collected from native species immediately surrounding the project area. Some of these seeds will be cultivated into mature plants for direct transplant into restored areas while others will be kept for dispersal in areas where soil has been loosened to promote ‘natural’ re-vegetation throughout the restoration area.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) - As with all restoration activities on the forest, this project will be consistent with direction in the Forest Land Management Plan and also the forest service publication, “Water Quality Management for Forest System Lands in California, Best Management Practices.” For a detailed list of applicable BMPs, see the General Project Criteria, Form K, part 1, number 7c.

Educational signage - The project costs and deliverables describe up to 150 signs to be installed adjacent restoration sites. These signs will include language stating, ‘Closed to Motorized Travel Year-Round to Protect Wildlife Habitat Area. Your Cooperation Will Be Appreciated. For More Information, Contact the US Forest Service Ranger District.’

Incorporation of alternate routes - The routes identified herein for restoration have been selected due to their potential impact to special status species and their proximity to legally designated OHV routes. Through the use of increased patrol and educational signage described above, users will be

informed of the restoration activities and directed toward legal OHV opportunities in the surrounding area.

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

This project is consistent with direction in the San Bernardino National Forest Land Management Plan (LRMP), published April, 2006. The LRMP is available for review at the Supervisor`s Office, or can be viewed online at http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sanbernardino/projects/lmrp.shtml.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

The restoration sites identified in this application will be added to the list of sites to be monitored annually by federally funded forest staff per the protocol identified in the WHPP. These sites will remain active on this list until the determination is made that restoration activities in the specified area have been fully successful, and additional site-specific monitoring is no longer needed. In addition to annual WHPP monitoring by forest staff, the new restoration sites will also be monitored, weeded and maintained primarily by the Green Thumb Volunteers, approximately twice a month during the growing season until established, which typically takes two to three years.

The Green Thumb Volunteers consistently contribute around 4,000 hours annually to the forest restoration and greenhouse programs at a value of over $90,000.00. Records are kept at the Mountain Top Ranger District in the Resources area for all Green Thumb volunteer projects. Restoration site monitoring is also supported by the SBNFA OHV Volunteers. It is estimated that this group contributes around 1000 hours annually to monitoring projects, at a value of over $20,000.00. Detailed SBNFA volunteer records are kept at the Big Bear Discovery Center where they can be reviewed.

The forest will continue to seek OHMVRD funding for restoration site monitoring activities each year (as a conservation project) to support staff in development and monitoring of the WHPP/HMP and operation of the forest greenhouse. The forest will also continue to support the program through appropriated federal funding and ongoing volunteer contributions. It is expected that the restoration site monitoring and conservation program on the forest will be supported 70% through federal funds and volunteer contributions, while the remaining 30% will be sought from OHMVRD. Please see conservation project costs and deliverables included in this application for a detailed cost breakdown of the forest restoration site conservation program. It is estimated that of the annual conservation budget, approximately 10% ($17,000.00) total combined value will be used to protect and conserve the restoration sites identified in this application. For this particular project, annual contributions will be approximately as follows:

Appropriated funds:	**$ 1,000.00**
Volunteer contributed:	**$11,300.00**
OHMVRD funds:	**$ 4,700.00**

These costs will be incurred annually until the determination is made that restoration activities in the specified area have been fully successful, and additional site-specific monitoring is no longer needed.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Six Rivers National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Six Rivers National Forest Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-18-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
X	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**7**	Division Findings	**7**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
X	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.

This project will result in beneficial improvements for multiple resources. Through decommissioning unmaintained and eroding roads as well as avoiding future storm-related road failures, soil productivity and downstream water quality will be maintained. The detrimental consequences of road failures to soils and water quality are well documented (Furniss, et al 1991 (ref # 1), and Furniss, et al 1998 (ref # 2)). Road-related landslides result in an irretrievable loss in soil productivity that can also result in detrimental impacts to downstream water quality and fish habitat. Road-related erosion and landslides are the lead source of management-related sedimentation within the Bluff Creek watershed. Photos 11 through 16 (see Project Specific Photos) illustrate recent catastrophic road failures in the Bluff Creek watershed on unmaintained roads that occurred in the Christmas storm of 2006.

By maintaining soil and water quality through road decommissioning efforts, special-status species habitat will be improved. Blue and Bluff Creek watersheds are key watershed refugia for listed Coho salmon. Both the California Department of Fish and Game as well as National Marine Fisheries Service recommend restoration efforts in these watersheds to help anchor the recovery of Coho salmon (CDFG, 2004 (ref # 3) and NMFS, 2007 (ref # 4)). In addition, protecting uninfected Port-Orford cedar (POC) stands through road decommission will reduce the risk of spreading the Port-Orford cedar root disease (USDA, 1998 (ref # 5)). POC stands are one of the key species that provide shade and instream channel structure for aquatic habitat within Blue, Bluff and Pecwan Creek watersheds (USDA, 1994 (ref # 6), USDA, 1998 (ref # 5), USDA, 2003 (ref # 7) and USDA, 2003 (ref # 8)). Restoring and protecting habitat for listed Coho salmon as well as protecting uninfected POC stands is of great cultural significance to both the Karuk and Yurok Tribes (USDA, 1998 (ref # 5) and USDA, 2003 (ref # 8)). Port-Orford cedar is used by both tribes in their religious ceremonies and salmon within the Klamath Basin is an integral part of their tribal cultures and Tribal trust rights.

References (available at the Six Rivers National Forest Headquarters):

1. Furniss, M.J., T.D. Roelofs, and C.S. Yee, 1991. Road construction and maintenance. In: Meehan, W.R., ed. Influences of forest and rangeland management. Special Pub. 19. Bethesda, MD: American Fisheries Society: 297-324. Chapter 8.

2. Furniss, M.J. T.S. Ledwith, M.A. Love, B.C. McFadin, S.A. Flanagan. (1998). "Response of Road-Stream Crossings to Large Flood Events in Washington, Oregon, and Northern California. USDA, Forest Service San Dimas Technology and Development Center. No.9877-1806.

3. USDA Forest Service 2006. Orleans Roads Analysis and Off-Highway Vehicle Strategy. Six Rivers National Forest. R5-MB-111. March 2006.

4. USDA, Forest Service. 1996. Blue Creek Ecosystem Analysis at the Watershed Scale: An Assessment of Riparian Reserve Conditions and Phytophthora Risk to Port Orford cedar with Treatment Recommendations, Six Rivers National Forest.

5. USDA Forest Service 1998. Proposed Implementation Plan: Port-Orford-cedar risk reduction actions for Orleans Ranger District.

6. USDA, Forest Service. 1994. Preliminary Watershed Restoration Assessment Bluff Creek, Six Rivers National Forest.

7. USDA, Forest Service. 2003. Mid-Klamath Watershed Assessment, Six Rivers National Forest.

8. USDA, BLM, 2003. A Range-wide Assessment of Port-Orford cedar on Federal Lands.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The main reason for the restoration work is to protect listed Coho salmon habitat within the Bluff and Blue Creek watersheds (CDFG, 2004 (ref # 1) and NMFS, 2007 (ref # 2)). Road decommissioning would minimize erosion and sedimentation through reducing the risk of storm-driven road failures and landslides (Orleans Transportation and Road Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA), 2007 see attached). Road decommissioning would protect uninfected POC stands (USDA, 1998 (ref # 3)). Both listed Coho salmon and POC are culturally and spiritually significant to the Yurok and Karuk Tribes (Yurok, 2004 (ref # 4)).

References (available at the Six Rivers National Forest Headquarters):

1. California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). 2004. Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon.

2. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), 2007. Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act Klamath River: Coho Salmon Recovery Plan.

3. USDA Forest Service 1998. Proposed Implementation Plan: Port-Orford-cedar risk reduction actions for Orleans Ranger District.

4. Yurok Tribe (2004). Blue Creek Watershed Restoration and Implementation and Training Program.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

The Six Rivers National Forest has law enforcement personnel that patrol the roads to ensure that Forest visitors and users follow Forest Service regulations and ensure appropriate vehicles are restricted to designated routes. Under the Region Five Route Designation process, motorized visitor use maps are being developed that will show forest visitors which routes are available for motorized use. Decommissioned roads are not available for motorized use.

Extensive site-specific project designs (project work plans) are generated for each road decommissioning site and are part of the Cost-Share Agreement between the Forest Service and Tribe prior to beginning implementation work. As part of the project work plan, large berms or tank traps are installed at the entrance of each decommissioned road, clearly barricading the road from future vehicular access. Use of native plants, native mulch and rock are all used to minimize surface erosion after road decommissioning treatments, especially on stream crossing removal sites. These items are included as part of the site-specific project work plan under the Cost-Share Agreement. Forest Service staff monitor the implementation of the Agreement to ensure that Best Management Practices are followed as outlined under the the Forest Service Region Five Master Agreement with the State Water Quality Control Board. Best Management Practices to be followed are outlined in the NEPA decision for this project (see Orleans Transportation and Road Restoration Environmental Assessment, Appendix G, pgs. 137-138).

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**12**	Division Findings	**12**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

This project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan. The Orleans Roads Analysis and Off-Highway Vehicle Strategy was completed in March 2006 after conducting public meetings and incorporating public input (USDA 2006 (ref # 1)). The recommendations outlined in this strategy document provided the basis for developing the Orleans Transportation and Road Restoration Environmental Assessment. After extensive public review, a FONSI decision was signed in March 2007 authorizing implementation of the proposed route designation and road decommissioning. Copies of these documents are attached as well as found electronically on the provided cd.

References (available at the Six Rivers National Forest Headquarters):

1. USDA Forest Service 2006. Orleans Roads Analysis and Off-Highway Vehicle Strategy. Six Rivers National Forest. R5-MB-111. March 2006.

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Future operational costs associated with proposed road decommissioning are a minimum and will be limited to Forest Service staff time periodically revisiting completed projects within three to five years after treatment or after large storm events for long-term monitoring purposes. This staff time will be funded by the Forest Service.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

X	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42

Evaluation Criteria
(OHV Form K, Part 9, Restoration Projects)

Applicant:	**USFS Tahoe National Forest**	Application Year	**2007/2008**
Project Name	**USFS Tahoe National Forest Restoration**	Project Number (Division Use Only)	**G07-02-20-R01**

RESTORATION PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Agency Contribution- As calculated on the PC/D (OHV Form J), what percentage of the cost of the Project would be covered by the Applicant?

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	51% or more **(10 points)**
	36% - 50% **(7 points)**
	26% - 35% **(5 points)**
	25% **(3 points)**

Note: Agency Contribution costs must be specific to work done on the Project; i.e., 100 volunteer hours of planting native plants at the restoration site, or cash contribution to purchase of the native plants.

Applicant Score	**0**	Division Findings	**0**	**Concur.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Negative impacts to natural and cultural resources should be avoided or minimized. The restoration Project would benefit:
(Check all that apply.)

X	Soils
X	Water quality
	Special-Status Species habitat
X	Cultural resources

Explain how the Project would address each.
Soil erosion would be minimized and water quality enhanced on approximately 6 miles of unneeded roads and user created 4X4 routes (equivalent to 8.7 acres) through deep tilling with rippers on a dozer to lift and fracture the compacted soil, and blocking future access. This action is designed to promote natural recovery of the road surface by restoring the natural hydrologic function (infiltration capacity) of the soil in the roadbed, reducing runoff and erosion, promoting reestablishment of natural vegetation, and, thus protecting water quality. There are two known large archaeological sites impacted by OHV use in the areas proposed for restoration. Archaeological sites will not be obliterated, but will have access to them blocked.

Scoring: 1 point each for a maximum of 4 points.

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

3. Reason for Restoration - ***(Check the one most appropriate.)***	
X	Protect special-status species or cultural site **(4 points)**
	OHV activity in a closed area **(3 points)**
	Alternative measures attempted, but failed **(2 points)**
	Management decision **(1 point)**

Briefly describe answer given above:

The project includes closure of two routes (about ½ mile long each) into the Grouse Motor Vehicle Closure Area, which OHV users are consistently using to access Baltimore Lake and Faucherie Lake. Monitoring has shown ATV tracks across an important archaeological site near Baltimore Lake, but off the main access route.

Applicant Score	**4**	Division Findings	**4**	**Concur.**

4. Measures to ensure success - The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation: ***(Check all that apply.)***	
X	Law enforcement
X	Site specific Project planning
X	Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices.

X	Use of native plants and materials.
X	Incorporation of universally recognized “Best Management Practices”.
X	Educational signage.
X	Incorporation of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

In 500 words or less, explain how the items checked above will ensure the success of the project:

Six law enforcement patrols (3 in 2008, 3 in 2009) would be specifically scheduled to monitor the Baltimore Lake site, as this is a very remote location. The other sites are easier to access and would be monitored as part of the normal Bowman area OHV law enforcement patrols, at least once per week during the use season.

An interdisciplinary team, including a hydrologist, planned the obliteration and blocking of the roads included in this proposal (Grouse Conifer Thinning and Utilization Project, Environmental Assessment) to meet resource protection goals.

The entrance to the roads and user created routes would be blocked by use of double earthen barriers, and, if available, by placing large logs across the trail.

By deep tilling the roads with rippers, blocking future OHV access with local rock and logs, and installing drainage structures; the compacted soil will be fractured, water controlled and future access controlled. This will promote natural recovery of the road surface by restoring the natural soil porosity, thus, increase water infiltration and holding capacity of the soil, reducing runoff and erosion, increasing plant and tree root development, and promoting reestablishment of natural vegetation.

BMPs were incorporated in the development of the project during the analysis and planning stages. The methods planned (BMPs) for use to reduce soil compaction, block access and control water flow, have been successfully used on numerous other projects on the Tahoe National Forest (i.e. Towle and Pioneer Management projects, to name just a couple).

Signs would be placed at the start of the obliterated and blocked routes indicating that they are closed to protect the natural resources. Patrol personnel will educate users in the area about the need to block access and protect the environment.

There exists ample similar OHV opportunities on forest development roads in and around the routes being proposed for obliteration. The exception is the illegal use of the ½ mile route into the Grouse Motor Vehicle Closure Area to access Baltimore Lake and east side of Faucherie Lake. There are other legal 4X4 routes in remote areas in the general vicinity (4X4 route to the ridge above Baltimore Lake, area around Meadow Lake, and Fordyce Lake - Fordyce Jeep Trail).

Scoring: 2 points each for a maximum of 14 points.

Applicant Score	**14**	Division Findings	**14**	**Concur.**

5. Management Plan - The project is consistent with a publicly reviewed and adopted management plan:

X	Yes **(5 points)**
	No **(no score)**

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

List the plan name and date of publication, as well as where a copy of the plan can be viewed:

- **Grouse Conifer Thinning and Utilization Project (Environmental Assessment – May, 2000)**
- **Yuba-Bear River Project FERC No. 2266 Recreation Plan (Revised Exhibit R – April, 2000)**
- **Tahoe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan 1990, as amended**

All these documents are located, and can be viewed, at the Tahoe National Forest Supervisor's Office, 613 Coyote Street, Nevada City, CA 95949

Applicant Score	**5**	Division Findings	**5**	**Concur.**

6. Funding Source for Operational costs as a result of plan implementation -

Provide a description of how future operational costs will be funded:

Future costs associated with monitoring, replacing signs and, if needed, additional obliteration and blockage work would be accomplished through a combination of Forest Service funds, volunteer patrols, and future OHV and RTP grants.

Scoring: (Check the one most appropriate.)

	Applicant's operational budget **(5 points)**
	Volunteer support and/or donations **(3 points)**
X	Combination of any of these **(3 points)**
	Other Grant funding **(2 points)**
	Funding would come entirely from future OHV Trust Funds **(no score)**

Applicant Score	**3**	Division Findings	**3**	**Concur.**

Maximum points available for Project specific criteria: 42